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75¢

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Images of destruction littered Rota yesterday, in the wake of Typhoon Mangkhut, which hit the island late Monday.
KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

A trail of ruin on Rota

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

SONGSONG, Rota—The island of Rota, which bore the brunt of Typhoon Mangkhut late Monday and was reportedly the strongest typhoon to hit the island since 2002, was in shambles in the wake of the Category 2 typhoon that brought maximum sustained winds of over 100 miles per hour (160.9 kilometers per hour) to the island.

Saipan Tribune, which flew out to the island of Rota yesterday to scope out the damage left by Typhoon Mangkhut, found widespread damage in Rota's main village of Songsong.

Toppled trees were sprawled across the main roads, power poles and transformers littered the island,

See RUIN on Page 4

House thumbs down Senate budget version

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

House members voted 16-1 to reject the Senate version of the CNMI government's fiscal year 2019 budget, citing the significant changes made by their counterparts in the Legislature, in yesterday's session on Capital Hill.

With the rejection, the CNMI budget will go to a conference committee, where both the House and Senate would need to settle their differences in discussing their respective issues and concerns on House Bill 19-173 SS1, which needs to be signed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres before the start of fiscal year 2019 on Oct. 1.

Torres needs to review the final version before signing the bill on

See HOUSE on Page 4

Rota needs help

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House floor leader Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) is appealing for the community's help as the people of the CNMI's southernmost island look to get back on their feet after the devastating onslaught of Typhoon Mangkhut on Monday.

The Category 2 weather disturbance hammered Rota with strong winds that reached 139mph, while being drenched by eight to 10 inches of continuous rains last Monday. Mangkhut had minimal effect on the islands of Saipan and Tinian.

See HELP on Page 4

Rota's needs: flashlights, batteries, water

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rota, which bore the brunt of Typhoon Mangkhut on Monday, needs flashlights, batteries, candles, bottled water, and blankets, according to Julie Ogo Manglona, founder of the charitable group Luta Cares.

When asked yesterday about Rota's situation after Typhoon Mangkhut battered the island Monday, Manglona said there are power lines that are down in some villages on Rota.

"We don't have power but we do have running water," she said.

She said Typhoon Mangkhut damaged some homes and resulted in flooding in Songsong village due to a possibly clogged sewer.

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BUSINESS
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The largest lawyers' group in the Philippines warns of judicial chaos.
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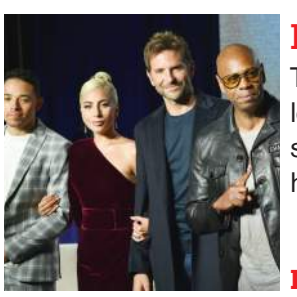

LIFE & STYLE
The response to Bradley Cooper's romantic saga "A Star Is Born" has been intense.
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Local

Mayor Atalig's status conference reset to Thursday

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The scheduled status conference in federal court yesterday afternoon in the case against Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig did not push through.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona re-scheduled the status conference to Thursday, Sept. 13, at 10am. The reason was not indicated in Manglona's order yesterday. But *Saipan Tribune* learned that it's because of Typhoon Mangkhut that battered Rota on Monday.

Atalig is currently on Rota. He was allowed to appear telephonically at the status conference.

The jury trial is scheduled to start on Oct. 16, 2018. Filing of motions is due by Oct. 9.

At the arraignment last Wednesday, Atalig, through temporary counsel Bruce Berline, pleaded not guilty to an indictment that charged him with one count of wire fraud.

The range of punishment for the offense is between zero to 20 years imprisonment and a $250,000 fine.

The indictment alleged that Atalig arranged a government-funded trip from Rota to Guam for himself and 12 others on a false claim that he was going to check for surplus equipment at the Naval Base in Guam.

Atalig allegedly actually went to Guam to participate in a political rally of the Republican Party last June 23 in Mangilao.

Manglona earlier determined that Atalig is not eligible for a court-appointed counsel.

Manglona authorized Atalig to remain at liberty pending his trial, but prohibited him from leaving the CNMI without the court's permission.

In Superior Court, where Atalig has also been charged, the Office of the Attorney General charged him and seven other municipal officials each with theft and misconduct in public office arising from the same political rally. The defendants' arraignment in local court is scheduled on Sept. 28.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Military training at FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military is conducting training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla until 11:59pm Sept. 17. It is recommended that the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. ***(PR)***

Cancer survivors, caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 13, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker for the meeting will be nutritionist Hee Jae Lee. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

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CNMI govt is settling Taisague lawsuit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mok

The CNMI government is settling the lawsuit filed by retiree Jesus I. Taisague, who questioned the constitutionality of the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action against the Retirement Fund and others.

Assistant attorney general Jacqueline A. Nicolas and Taisague, through counsel Samuel I. Mok, filed a joint status report before the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Friday.

Nicolas and Mok informed the court that settlement talks continue after a conference before U.S. District Court for Guam Magistrate Judge Joaquin V. E. Manibusan Jr. last Aug. 8.

Nicolas and Mok disclosed that the parties are finalizing an agreement and expect to file a settlement agreement sometime this week.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood disclosed recently that the parties had as settlement conference with Manibusan last Aug. 8, but did not reach an agreement.

Tydingco-Gatewood ordered the parties to file a joint status report no later than last Friday, Sept. 7.

Manibusan was designated to act as a settlement judge in Taisague's lawsuit.

Tydingco-Gatewood handles Johnson's lawsuit after U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona recused from the case. The class action resulted in a settlement.

Manglona and Tydingco-Gatewood concurred that a magistrate from the District of Guam shall be assigned for the duration of Taisague's lawsuit, and for any additional time required to complete any related business, and to perform certain settlement duties in the case.

Taisague filed the lawsuit in 2013 against then-governor Eloy S. Inos, the CNMI government, Department of Finance, and the Retirement Fund for entering into a settlement agreement with Johnson that, according to him, is unconstitutional and illegal.

Taisague filed the case through then-counsel Ramon Quichocho, who is now a disbarred lawyer.

In December 2013, Tydingco-Gatewood denied Taisague's motion that seeks an order enjoining Inos and the CNMI government from withholding or failing to pay 100 percent of his pension benefits.

Taisague was among the 16 persons who opted out of the Johnson settlement agreement.

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~~8D224~~	~~Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD	~~$3,500~~	~~$17,495~~
~~8D227~~	~~Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD	~~$3,500~~	~~$17,495~~
~~8D248~~	~~White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD	~~$3,000~~	~~$17,995~~
8D249	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
8D250	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
8D256	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
8D257	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera	$3,000	$17,995
~~8D212~~	~~Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-~~ SOLD ~~alloy wheels~~	~~$4,500~~	~~$18,495~~
~~8D228~~	~~White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back~~ SOLD ~~alloy wheels~~	~~$4,500~~	~~$18,495~~
8D229	Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$4,500	$18,495
8D230	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$4,500	$18,495
8D231	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$4,500	$18,495
	MAZDA 6i TOURING		
8D235	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$23,995
8D236	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$23,995
	2019 CX-3		
9D001	Brown, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, Sport	$3,000	$20,995
9D002	Ceramic, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, Sport	$3,000	$20,995
9D003	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Grand Touring	$3,000	$25,995
9D004	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Grand Touring	$3,000	$25,995
	2018 CX-5 GRAND TOURING		
8D203	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$3,000	$27,995
8D204	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$3,000	$27,995
8D218	White, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$2,000	$28,995
8D219	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, Sunroof	$2,000	$28,995
~~8D243~~	~~Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, Awd,~~ SOLD ~~nroof~~	~~$2,000~~	~~$28,995~~
	2019 CX-9 GRAND TOURING		
8D103	White, 4-cyl. turbo Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, 7-Pax	$10,000	$34,995
8D128	Silver, 4-cyl. turbo Engine, AT, Awd, Leather, 7-Pax	$10,000	$34,995

HYUNDAI

2018 ELANTRA		DISCOUNT	PRICE
8H093	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$18,995
8H094	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$18,995
	2018 TUCSON		
8H096	Blue, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H097	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H099	Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H100	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H101	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H102	Silver, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H103	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H104	Gray, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H105	Black, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
8H107	Red, 4-cyl. Engine, AT, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$3,000	$22,995
	2018 SANTA FE		
8H073	Silver, 6-pax, 2wd, back-up camera, alloy wheels	$5,000	$28,995

MITSUBISHI

2018 MIRAGE SE HATCHBACK		DISCOUNT	PRICE
8M030	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M031~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M032	Silver, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M035~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M036	Gray, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
	2018 MIRAGE G4 SEDAN		
8M019	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,500	$15,495
~~8M020~~	~~Silver, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
~~8M021~~	~~Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
~~8M022~~	~~Gray, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up c~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,500~~	~~$15,495~~
8M026	Blue, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995
~~8M027~~	~~Black, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up~~ SOLD ~~ess entry~~	~~$3,000~~	~~$15,995~~
8M033	White, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995
8M034	Red, 3-cyl. Engine, AT, back-up camera, keyless entry	$3,000	$15,995

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HELP

From Page 1

The House Ways and Means Committee has offered to help, with committee chair Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) saying that they would look at all available resources to find ways to assist the people of Rota.

Former CNMI residents based in the continental U.S. have also began mobilizing to respond to the immediate needs of Rota residents.

Maratita said he hasn't received any information yet from Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig since the last he spoke to him was early Tuesday morning. "We talked to see if there were any injuries and to know the extent of the damage."

"From what I heard, it was really devastating. Mostly down south, in the Songsong area. Utility poles and power lines were down, with the possible water contamination because of leaks. So, I'm also still waiting for the whole assessment."

He is pleased that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Gary Camacho, and representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency were already in Rota doing an assessment.

Maratita said that damage to property in residential areas were significant, with the affected families and persons currently staying in the designated shelter.

He then appealed for any help from the community. "Any kind of assistance from the general public will be accepted. Essential needs like food, clothing, and especially water, since water there is contaminated. Anything will be greatly appreciated and I'm expressing an advance thank you to all who would help the people of Rota.

Looking for resources

Demapan said they first need to know how much the local and federal governments would fork out before making their own contribution. "We would look at all available resources and find out what ways we can provide assistance."

"It is also important for us to quantify what's going to come out of the local government and from the federal [side], following the state of emergency declaration. It is also going to come down to us looking beyond the [CNMI fiscal year 2019] budget as well."

Responding to a request from Torres, President Donald Trump declared the CNMI yesterday under a state of disaster emergency, freeing up federal funds to help the CNMI recover.

"If we want to have immediate resources, then we have to look at those that are available today. That's something that we're going to work with [Maratita], the [Rota] Legislative Delegation, the Rota Mayor's Office, and the administration," said Demapan.

Operation resumes

Torres has already issued a memorandum that all government offices on Saipan and Tinian would resume operations today, while Rota will remain close as the island tries to recover.

"Government offices on Rota will remain closed until further notice due to ongoing recovery and relief efforts, and to ensure that Rota residents can tend to their families, personal property, and [other] belongings."

"While damage assessment for public and residential facilities will continue to be conducted on all three islands, we are allocating and prioritizing the necessary government resources for recovery efforts and mass care assistance on the island of Rota," added Torres.

Torres, along with local and federal officials, flew to Rota yesterday aboard two Osprey vertical takeoff and landing aircraft to examine the extent of the damage.

"We, along with our federal and military partners, will continue to monitor emergency support functions on all three islands with a specific focus on the needs of our people on Rota," he said.

Interim Education commissioner Glenn Muna also issued a school opening notice. "All CNMI public schools will resume classes [today] Sept. 12, with the exception of all Rota schools and Rota Head Start Center."

Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico also informed their students that schedule of classes resume today at the Saipan and Tinian campuses. "Following [Tuesday] morning's 'all-clear' declaration by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, NMC offices on Saipan and Tinian will reopen and classes will resume as scheduled [today]. A separate announcement for NMC's Rota campus will be made."

PSS and NMC officials added that everyone should visit their respective social media pages for any further announcements and other updates.

The two First Hawaiian Bank branches—Gualo Rai and Oleai—on Saipan also opened at 10am yesterday while all Guam locations resumed operations at Tuesday noon.

United Airlines' Corporate Communications also announced that they resumed their normal flight operations Tuesday except a cancelled flight (UA 196) from Guam to Narita. "United urges customers should check the latest status of their flights at united.com or by calling 1-800-8648331."

State of emergency

President Trump has declared a state of emergency for the CNMI following a letter sent to the White House last Monday.

"I am pleased to announce that President Trump has approved my request for an emergency declaration for the [CNMI]. [The Federal Emergency Management Agency] is now authorized to provide appropriate assistance for required emergency measures, authorized under Title V of the Stafford Act, to save lives and to protect property and public health, and safety or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe on the three islands—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

"Specifically, FEMA is authorized to provide emergency protective measures limited to direct federal assistance, under Public Assistance Program at 75 percent federal funding."

Torres also directed yesterday for all U.S. and CNMI flags be lowered to half-staff the entire day pursuant to Public Law 107-89, which states that Sept. 11 of every year is designated as Patriot Day.

He then issued the "all-clear" for the three islands yesterday afternoon.

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management office also advised that a weather disturbance forming in the Marshall Islands and eastern Micronesia is "not expected to pose a threat to the Marianas."

"Satellite imagery shows disorganized areas of showers and isolated thunderstorms from Pohnpei across Kosrae and Kwajalein to Majuro. The associated circulation is broad and weak, with an ill-defined center near Kwajalein. Maximum winds are only around 10mph," said the HSEM advisory.

Guam Coast Guard

The Coast Guard Sector Guam is also helping in assessing the damage wrought by Mangkhut. Personnel from Sector Guam, Station Apra Harbor, and the Pacific Strike Force from Alameda in California have been assessing the port conditions of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"Reopening the Port of Guam is our top priority. We are currently conducting an on-water assessment with a crew aboard our 29-foot response boat from Station Apra Harbor, and have multiple teams that are making shoreside and facility assessments," said Sector Guam commander Capt. Christopher Chase. "Once these assessments are completed and safe navigation is available to all traffic, we will reopen the ports."

Guam Coast Guard is advising everyone that the waters in the surrounding Mariana group of islands remain dangerous despite Mankhut already passing the region. "We encourage everyone to stay out of the water until conditions return to normal."

RUIN

From Page 1

and numerous homes were left without roofs or were toppled altogether.

According to resident Benny Lami-ing, his entire kitchen was blown away and his home was flooded. Lami-ing was forced to seek shelter with a neighbor.

The only typhoon that came close to Lami-ing 's experience on Rota was Typhoon Pongsona that devastated the island back in 2002.

Lami-ing said there is nothing else he can do but move on and restore his home little by little and hopes he can receive help from the local or federal government.

Lami-ing was only one of the hundreds of Rota residents who lost their homes to Typhoon Mangkhut.

Over 40 individuals who completely lost their homes are currently seeking shelter at the Rota Office on Aging and are not sure where they will go if they can no longer seek shelter there.

As of yesterday, the U.S. government has already declared a state of disaster emergency in the CNMI and reinforcements have been deployed.

Power was down in several parts of the island and water was not immediately available.

The forecasted point of impact was Guam and Rota but it is ow being reported that the eye of Typhoon Mangkhut' went over Rota directly.

According to Rota Mayor's Office press secretary Ivan Mereb, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who flew to the island yesterday aboard one of two military Osprey helicopters, met with military and Federal Emergency Management Agency officials to discuss the assessment and recovery phase that Rota will soon undergo.

Mangkhut was projected to intensify into a Category 4 typhoon as it approached the Marianas. A Category 4 typhoon have maximum sustained winds of 130–156 mph (209–251 kmh).

In comparison, according to a Wikipedia entry, the Joint Typhoon Warning Center assessed Typhoon Soudelor, which hit Saipan in August 2015, as a Category 5-equivalent super typhoon, with one-minute sustained winds at 180 mph (285 kmh).

HOUSE

From Page 1

or before Sept. 30 to avert a government shutdown.

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) named Ways and Means Committee chair Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) to lead the House conferees and appointed vice speaker Janet U. Maratita (R-Saipan), Rep. B.J. Attao (Ind-Saipan), and alternate Rep. John Paul P. Sablan (R-Saipan) on the House panel.

They will then sit with the Senate representatives on the conference committee—Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Senate vice president Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota) and Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) as members, with Sen. Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) as alternate—to hammer out a final version.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* last night that the Senate leadership would hold an early meeting today to begin planning for the conference committee. "I talked to the members of the Senate and told that we have to meet since we need to have an Open Government Act announcement before the [conference committee]."

During the House session, House majority leader Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) was the lone House member who voted no on H.B. 19-173 while Rep. Edwin P. Aldan (R-Tinian), Rep. Alice S. Igitol (R-Saipan) and Rep. Jose I. Itibus (R-Saipan) were absent.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

FLASHLIGHTS

From Page 1

Manglona said Federal Emergency Management Agency personnel are assessing the island using Osprey helicopters—a new kind of helicopter capable of vertical liftoff.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta said he understands that Rota was directly hit by the typhoon and suffered major damage to power poles and tin houses.

"Very fortunately, there were no reports of injuries to the residents or visitors," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*.

The former governor said he is glad that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has sent at least four personnel to Rota. "I am hopeful for a quick recovery," Babauta said.

On Saipan, for residents like former teacher Pedro C. Sablan, Typhoon Mangkhut's was a "banana typhoon" because most of the damage was to crops.

Sablan said when a typhoon's wind is blowing from 25 to 75 miles per hour, they call it "banana typhoon" as its damage is mostly on farmers' crops like bananas and papayas.

With Mangkhut, Sablan said there were also damage to trees and *pala-pala* (pavilions) and somehow managed to scare people on Saipan because "everything was moving."

Sablan hacked up a fallen *tangan-tangan* tree that was blocking the Tinaktak Drive in Koblerville near their house yesterday morning. His neighbor helped him remove the tree to clear the road for motorists.

As early as 6:30am yesterday, most of the roads on Saipan were already clear of debris and fallen branches as personnel from the Saipan Mayor's Office and the Department of Public Works have started clearing the roads since Monday afternoon.

Saipan Tribune also spotted Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Guerrero patrolling the Sugar Dock area yesterday morning.

Guerrero said all police officers have been patrolling the island since the beginning of the storm until yesterday.

On Saipan, Guerrero said the damage were mostly debris on the road and fallen trees.

He said emergency responders, personnel from Public Works, the Mayor's Office, and all other agencies collaborated to remove debris and trees from roads.

He said there were no reports of typhoon-related injuries. There were also no reports of a major crime.

He said all police units have been patrolling all over the island for post-damage assessment.

For Nenita Oronigo and her 13-year-old daughter, the time after a storm is the best time to catch fish using rod and reel at Sugar Dock.

"My daughter and I like to go fishing, especially after a typhoon," Oronigo said.

Chris Macana, a maintenance worker at an apartment in Koblerville, was fixing the tin roof of two garages that collapsed due to strong wind. He said the tin roof split into two during the typhoon.

Before fixing the roofs, he took photos that may be used as evidence in case of federal assistance.

Manuel Quetaneg, a maintenance worker at the Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School in San Antonio, was cleaning the school premises of leaves and tree branches yesterday morning.

Quetaneg said a lot of tree branches fell and that he is hoping that a company will help him discard the debris.

Lang endorses GOP bets

Former governor Froilan "Lang" Tenorio has thrown his support behind Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his running mate, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), in the November general election.

Tenorio is the second from the Democratic Party to endorse the GOP standard bearers after former senator Marica Frica Pangelinan.

Tenorio served as the fourth CNMI chief executive from 1994 to 1998.

He said he is now a Republican and Torres' relationship with President Donald Trump is why he is supporting the Republican Party nominees against the independent team of former governor Juan N. Babauta and Dr. Rita A. Sablan.

"I am endorsing Gov. Torres in the upcoming election. I am a Republican, and I voted for President Trump in 2016. I will vote for him again in 2020, if I live that long," said Tenorio in a statement.

"Trump is very good for the [CNMI] and especially with Torres as governor of the CNMI. I join my families on Saipan in supporting the re-election of Torres, and the election of his running mate, [Sen.] Palacios."

He added that Trump was pleased to learn that the CNMI Republican delegation, headed by Torres, endorsed him during the 2016 GOP presidential primary. The CNMI was the lone territory to endorse the former reality-star-turned politician.

"The President was very excited when he learned that the CNMI Republican delegation chaired by Governor Torres endorsed him for president during the primary in 2016, the only territory to do so," said Tenorio, who is currently residing in Texas.

He said that Trump returned the favor by signing H.R. 5956 or the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018 last July.

Tenorio also expressed confidence that Trump, who still has more than a year in his first term, will win re-election. "This is more reason why the CNMI should retain Torres as governor in the upcoming election, so that he will have four more years to work with the President."

He said that he once saw Torres standing next to the President when the other state governors visited the White House. "One does not get that close to the President unless he is invited to do so, a sign of the close friendship between the two. That was a very proud moment of my life."

Tenorio said Torres' relationship with Trump is in contrast to when he was still in office and even accused then-President Bill Clinton of shutting down the CNMI economy "by taking away our right to have a textile industry."

He added that Torres was also often criticized for his close relationship with casino investor Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC.

"The casino is the major industry on Saipan and it is there to stay, providing much needed revenues to the government and employment for our people. [Torres] has to ensure the successful operation of the casino and has the responsibility to help the casino investor as much as possible. To stand in the way is misguided. Believe me, whoever is governor of the [CNMI] will do exactly as what Torres is doing."

Tenorio said there's a legitimate concern about the operations of the casino but believes the Commonwealth Casino Commission is doing its job.

"If we were to make changes, I suggest that one worthy proposal is to have [CCC] members be elected so that the[y] provide a direct relationship with the people they are protecting." ***(Jon Perez)***

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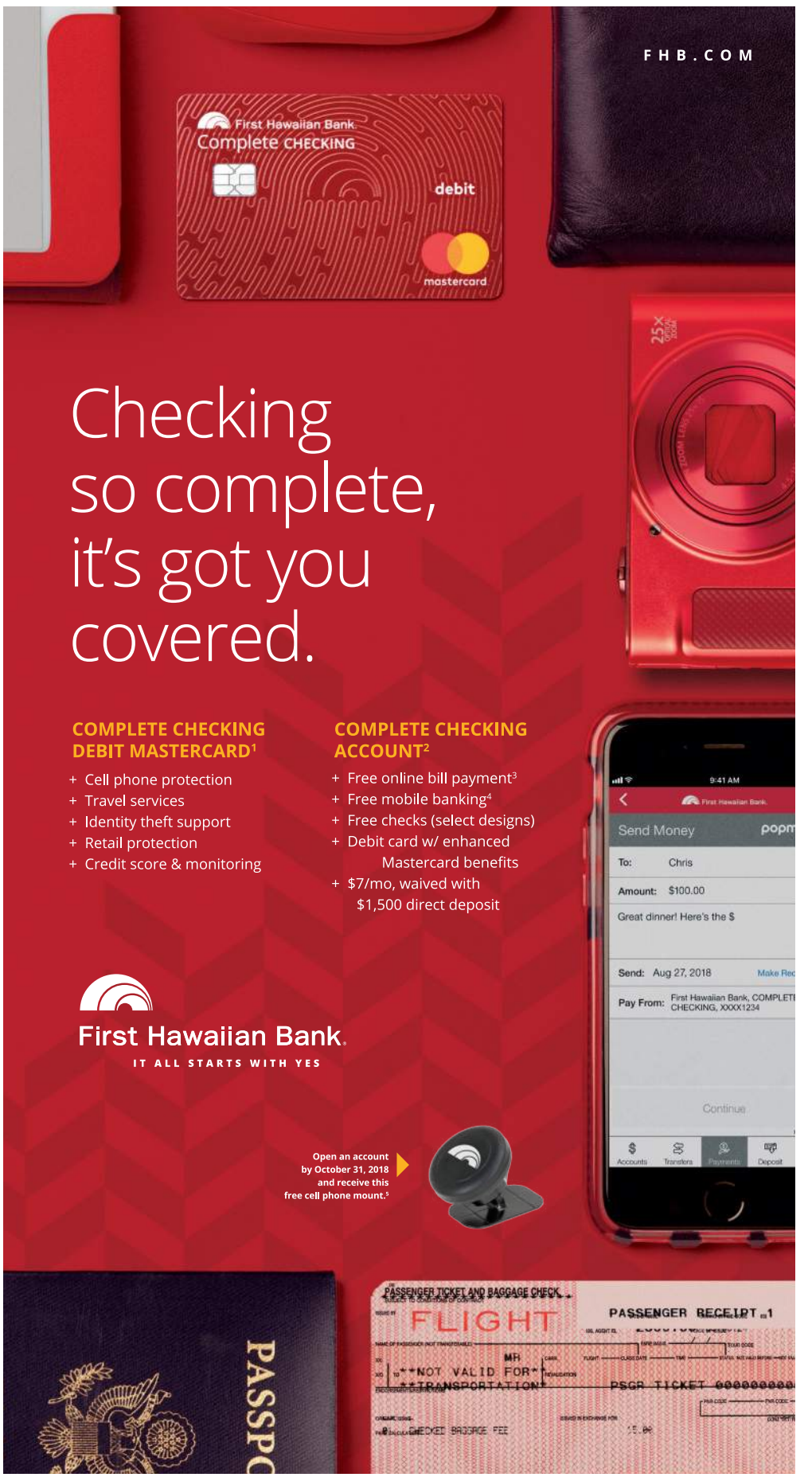

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AS PART OF MVA GOAL

MVA works to bring back Japan market share

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority is aggressively working to revive the Japan market to bring back the CNMI's market share to acceptable levels as part of MVA's goal of having a diversified tourism economy.

MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion told *Saipan Tribune* that reviving the Japan market will balance out their portfolio going forward.

Concepcion said MVA has set a strategic goal of having a diversified tourism economy with 30 percent coming from Japan, 30 percent from Korea, 30 percent from China, and 10 percent from Taiwan, Russia, and everywhere else.

At present, Japan accounts for only 7 percent market of the market.

He said MVA is thankful to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for reiterating their "30-30-30 strategic goal" in his State of the Commonwealth Address last Aug. 24.

In his SOCA, Torres said his goal remains the same—a resilient, stable, and strong tourism economy that is built on the principle of 30 percent Japan, 30 percent Korea, and 30 percent China.

Citing Torres' announcement that Skymark Airlines plans to launch flights from Tokyo to Saipan, Concepcion said this will be the start of the revitalization of the Japan market.

"We are excited about Skymark," said Concepcion, adding that MVA is also working on direct flights from Taipei to Saipan and that they hope to make such an announcement very soon.

"We have good momentum already so this will be exciting," the managing director said.

Skymark Airlines, Japan's third largest carrier, will be the first Japan-based carrier in the CNMI since 2005, when Japan Airlines left.

POST-TYPHOON ASSESSMENT CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Coast Guard personnel assess the waterways and port conditions after Typhoon Mangkhut impacted Guam and the CNMI late Monday night. Personnel from Sector Guam, Station Apra Harbor, and the Pacific Strike Force from Alameda, California made the rounds on the islands of Guam, Saipan, Rota, and Tinian to assess the various port conditions.

Metran joins Aqua Resort Club

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Arnel "Neil" Metran is Aqua Resort Club's new food and beverage manager.

Metran, who has been on island for 30 years, has been at his post at ARC since August this year.

"I am happy to be back in the hotel business after resting for more than a year. I miss the hotel management life because I've been in the business since 1982, starting with the Hyatt in the Philippines," he said.

Metran

Since Christmas is just around the corner, Metran said that many exciting things are coming as early as September at Aqua Resort Club.

"We plan to make the months of September, October, November and December as months where people have so many things to look forward…when they come to Aqua."

"We are proud to say that [Kevin's The Prime Rib and Seafood Restaurant] is a league of it own on Saipan. …Aside from the dishes, we are also highlighting the hands-on service of the crew," he added.

According to Metran, Aqua Resort Club recognizes the big Korean community on Saipan. "That's why on Sept. 24, 2018, from 11am to 2am, we are celebrating *Chuseok*—a Korean Thanksgiving."

"Everyone is welcome because, aside from traditional Korean food and delicacies that will be served, a Korean performance by Jennifer Dance will highlight the event. Local resident rates are $19 for adults and $9 for children," he added.

October will be celebrated as a month of appreciation for Kevin's Prime membership card holders. When they dine at Kevin's, they will automatically get a free bottle of Robert Mondavi wine, in addition to the Prime member perk of getting a 20-percent discount.

"We are also bringing back the Halloween Pool Party…on Oct. 31 and guests will be entertained by a DJ playing dance music while they enjoy night swimming. We will also have trick-or-treating in the afternoon at the lobby for the children who would drop by," he added.

Victoria Sorell, Aqua Resort Club's marketing and public relations manager, said that Aqua is very excited to welcome Metran to the team "and we look forward to the positive changes that he will implement while still highlighting the original reasons why people love coming to Aqua."

For more information about Aqua Resort Club activities and reservations, call (670) 322-1234.

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CPA adopts incentive program to entice airlines

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.coms
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors unanimously approved Thursday last week an airline incentive program that aims to encourage new airlines to operate in the CNMI.

In a board meeting presided over by CPA acting chair Thomas P. Villagomez, CPA board airport operations committee chair Barrie C. Toves moved to officially adopt the carrier incentive program.

Toves said the board has discussed and deliberated on the program for several months now and that they should already act on it, as it is very much needed, especially for the island of Rota.

All five board directors approved the program.

In an interview after the meeting, Toves gave credit to board finance committee chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds, who took the lead in looking into implementing the program. He said the purpose of the program is to entice new airlines to come in.

"For example, for Rota and Tinian, there is only one operator. So we want to give this incentive to any new airline that wants to come in and do domestic inter-island," Toves said.

With the pullout of Delta Air Lines, the CNMI lost a direct connection to Japan, he said.

Delta Air Lines officially operated its last flight between Saipan and Japan last May.

Toves said a new airline that will replace Delta will be entitled or qualified to participate in that program.

Under the program, he explained, during the first year the airline will get 75 percent discount on all tariffs or landing fees and the second year will be a 50-percent discount.

On the third year, the airline will be charged in full.

"We adopted the program today, so it is up to the [CPA] management now to implement it and advertize it," he said.

Toves said they have been trying to push this airline incentive program since last March.

In the last board's meeting last March, the CPA committee announced to the board that they are finalizing the incentive program.

"It's been six months and, in between that time period, we never anticipated that Cape Air and United Airlines would be going to sever ties," he said.

Toves said the whole intention of the program was to convince Cape Air to increase its number of flights from Rota to Guam andRota to Saipan.

"So we were not ready to receive the bad news that Cape Air was leaving. It [was] a wrong timing for us. But if we implement this program and Cape Air is ready and capable, they can now be qualified to participate in the program and receive the discounts," he said.

Cape Air, the airline that services Rota from Guam and Saipan, officially stopped its services to the CNMI last May.

Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair pro tem Thomas P. Villagomez presides over the board meeting last Thursday in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Firefighting classroom at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Also in the photo are CPA legal counsel Robert T. Torres and some CPA officials.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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Typhoon Mangkhut

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres arrived on Rota yesterday morning aboard one of two Oprey helicopters so he could personally look at the extent of damage caused by Typhoon Mangkhut on Rota.

The U.S. Coast Guard in the CNMI prepares for the arrival of Tropical Storm Mangkhut on Sept. 10, 2018. The Captain of the Port Guam has established Port Heavy Weather Condition Zulu for the ports of Guam and the CNMI, effective last Monday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JON PEREZ

Personnel from one of the establishments at the Springs Plaza board up the windows of their office before Typhoon Mangkhut hit Saipan last Monday.

Personnel of the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and representatives of various critical government agencies await the briefing of the National Weather Service Guam in their Operations Center on Capital Hill last Monday.

JON PEREZ

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW18-IFB-022

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PARTS FOR JOHN DEERE 410G BACKHOE 4X4 ENGINE SERIAL # T041GX941305 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Supply and Delivery of Parts for John Deere 410G Backhoe 4x4 Engine Serial # T0410GX941305 for the Department of Public Works, Saipan** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **August 29, 2018** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **Fifty Dollars ($50.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Teasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect."

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITUES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

A **Pre-bid Conference** is not required, however, questions regarding this **IFB** must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 21, 2018** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-18-IFB-022"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **9:00 a.m. local time October 01, 2018**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **9:00 a.m. local time, October 01, 2018**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 01, 2018** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **October 10, 2018.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **9:00 a.m. local time, October 12, 2018**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **9:00 a.m. local time, on October 01, 2018**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.
Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Northern Marianas Humanities Council

Navigating the Human Experience

Call for Nominations
2018 Governor's Humanities Awards

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2018 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- **Research and Publication in the Humanities;**
- **Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;**
- **Preservation of CNMI History; and**
- **Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).**

A fifth category, **Lifetime Achievement**, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and **are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 12 October 2018.**

Awards will be presented in a special ceremony in October (time, date and venue to be announced).

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.

KEVIN CALIBO

Typhoon Mangkhut brought floods to several areas on Saipan on Monday.

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power pole near Coral Garden Hotel in District 4 in Songsong village was downed by the strong winds of Typhoon Mangkhut yesterday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. lineman fixes a power line on Tinian.

EDWIN STA. THERESA

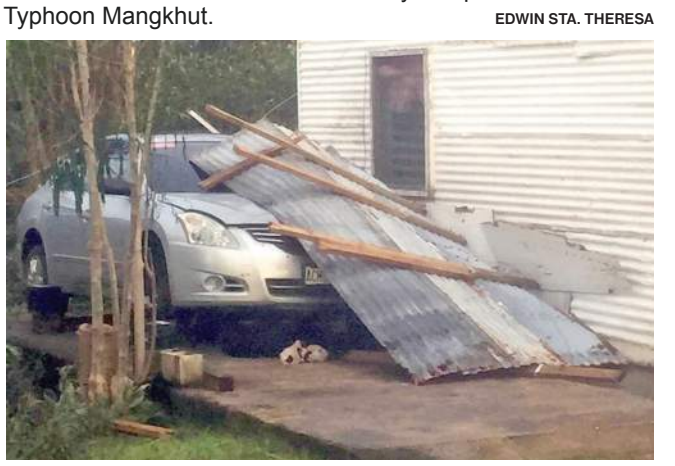
The emergency sign at the Tinian Health Clinic was no match for the powerful winds of Typhoon Mangkhut. EDWIN STA. THERESA

The strong winds brought by Typhoon Mangkhut downed this tree on Monday on Saipan.

KEVIN CALIBO

The roof of this house is blown off by the powerful winds of Typhoon Mangkhut.

EDWIN STA. THERESA



EDWIN STA. THERESA

This car is partly covered by a torn-off part of a roof.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai
Saipan Tribune
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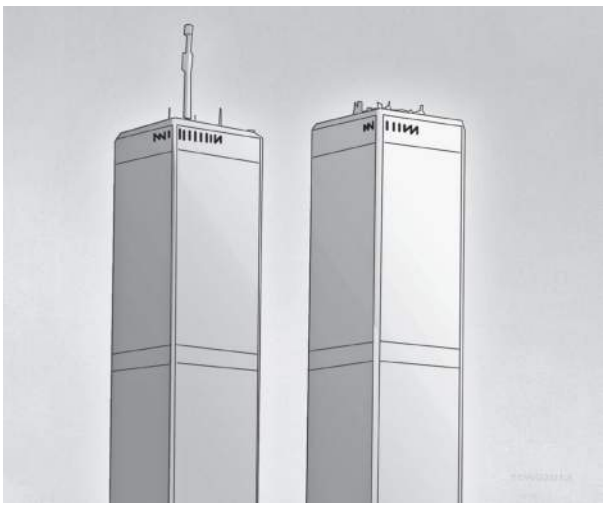
EDITORIAL

Remember those who lost their lives and honor those who gave theirs



Seventeen years ago this week, the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 that went down in Somerset County, Pa., brought our country together—first in shock and disbelief, and soon after in grief, and then with a common purpose.

That purpose, while easily forgotten in a time of relative peace, was fresh in the minds of Americans in the days and weeks following 9/11. As President George W. Bush said in his Oct. 8, 2001, address to the nation, "Since Sept. 11, an entire generation of young Americans has gained new understanding of the value of freedom and its cost in duty and in sacrifice."

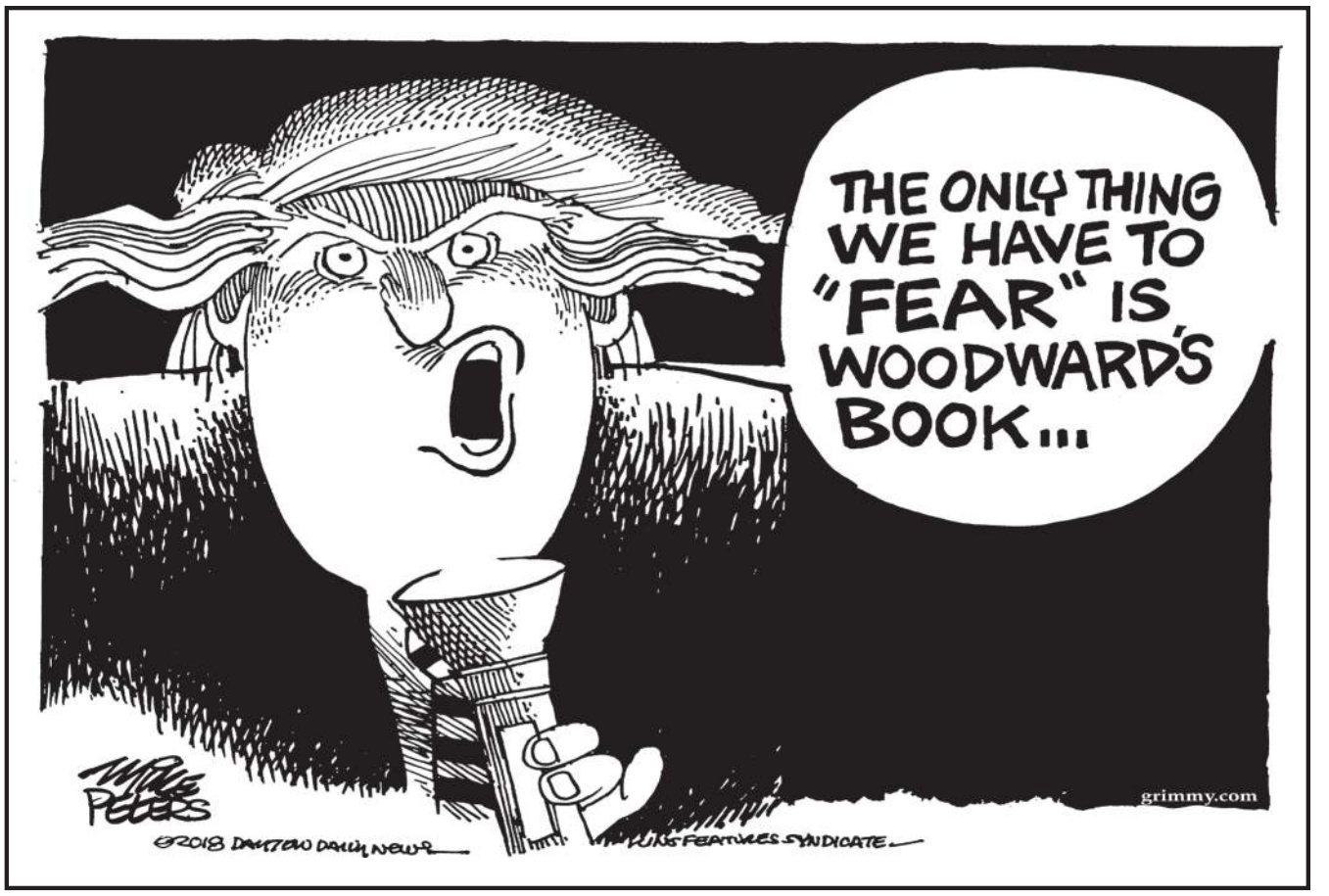
Now, 17 years later, a lifetime for many young Americans, we look back on the cost of three wars—one in Afghanistan, which continues to this day; another in Iraq that officially came to an end in December 2011; and a third that takes place with the assistance of our allies whenever and wherever terrorists plot to dismantle the architecture of liberal democracy and claim innocent lives.

Since 9/11, the "cost in duty and in sacrifice" has been steep. As we wrote this Memorial Day, "More than 2.7 million Americans have deployed since 9/11 in support of the global war on terrorism, the longest war in our nation's history. And among them, close to 7,000 men and women in uniform have given their lives safeguarding democracy at home and abroad."

On Tuesday, as the names of the nearly 3,000 men, women and children from more than 90 countries who perished on 9/11 are read aloud, our thoughts and prayers will be with the victims' families. But our thoughts and prayers also will be with the thousands of military families who lost family members—son or daughter, wife or husband, mother or father—in the long struggle to defend freedom.

At the same time, we want to acknowledge the brave men and women—the veterans of our post-9/11 wars—

See REMEMBER on Next Page



How America forgot 'Never Forget'

This week calls for reflection as we pause to remember the 2,997 people who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and the thousands of Americans killed and wounded in military service to our country since that horrific day.

Seventeen years later, we also honor the heroic actions of two American statesmen, former Gov. Thomas Kean and former Rep. Lee Hamilton. They led the eight members of the 9/11 Commission—four Democrats and four Republicans—in an unprecedented, bipartisan effort to understand one of the worst tragedies in American history and to provide the government with a path forward to ensure it never happens again.

We have come to accept the idea that our nation comes together in times of crisis. But collaboration in crises is neither easy nor inevitable. The commission's work took place during the run-up to the 2004 presidential election, and amid fierce and divisive debates about the Iraq War.

Under different leadership, the commission could have easily devolved into partisan finger-pointing focused on blame instead of solutions. Instead, Kean and Hamilton understood that success depended upon building trust among commission members, recruiting an expert staff, building a strong factual record, listening to all relevant viewpoints and always presenting a united front. In short, they knew then what too many are forgetting now.

That's how the 9/11 Commission produced a unanimous report with broad bipartisan credibility. Since then, nearly all its 41 recommendations have been adopted into law, making the government far better prepared than it was before 9/11. Thanks to the vigilance and determination of those involved in protecting our country, there has not been another catastrophic attack on that scale on our soil.

The dedication of Kean and Hamilton to public service was evident well before their work on the 9/11 Commission.

Kean served two terms as governor of New Jersey from 1982 to 1990. A leader in education reform, advocacy for the arts, and environmental protection, he also presided over the first measure enacted by any state to divest from apartheid South Africa. "The best thing about being governor, and the only thing I really miss about it, is that I didn't go home any night without feeling I had done something for somebody," Kean said.

President George W. Bush, in appointing him to lead the 9/11 Commission, said: "Tom Kean is a leader respected for his integrity, fairness, and good judgment. I am confident he will work to make the commission's investigation thorough."

Hamilton served as the representative from Indiana's 9th District from 1965 to 1999. A leader on foreign policy and international issues, he chaired several panels, including Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence, along with the House's Iran-Contra investigation.

By JASON GRUMET
CQ-Roll Call

Jason Grumet is founder and president of the Bipartisan Policy Center. The Bipartisan Policy Center is a D.C.-based think tank that actively promotes bipartisanship. BPC works to address the key challenges facing the nation through policy solutions that are the product of informed deliberations by former elected and appointed officials, business and labor leaders, and academics and advocates from both ends of the political spectrum. BPC is currently focused on health, energy, national security, the economy, financial regulatory reform, housing, immigration, infrastructure, and governance. Follow BPC on Twitter or Facebook.

And their service didn't end there. After the conclusion of the 9/11 Commission's work, Hamilton went on to lead the Iraq Study Group.

"At a time when foreign policy issues are part of the partisan trench warfare of Washington, there aren't many people who can rise above it, but (Hamilton) is one of them," former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said while serving with him on the group.

Kean and Hamilton continued to be leaders in national security, forming the 9/11 Public Discourse Project to press for the implementation of the commission's recommendations. They joined the Bipartisan Policy Center as co-chairs of its National Security Project, where they persisted in their post-9/11 warnings about failures of imagination, management, capabilities and policies that might threaten our national security.

In honor of their lifelong commitment to public service, and the example they have set in putting the national security interests of their country over partisan posturing, BPC is recognizing Kean and Hamilton with its 2018 Patriot Award.

The award recognizes leaders who demonstrate political courage and exceptional leadership throughout their careers, even in the most partisan of times, when others might retreat from the challenges of opposing interests, ideology and demands of our diverse nation.

The legacy of 9/11 is not just one of tragedy. It is also one of national resilience and unity. As we honor Governor Kean and Congressman Hamilton, we remember that legacy and hope we can learn from it in today's divisive times. There is no cause more vital than keeping American lives safe, and bipartisanship will always be fundamental to that mission.

"We don't live in a perfect world, and we can't attain one. But in the end, politics is about striving to get there—to make the world, or at least this country, better," Hamilton said.

Chafleg Na Kinalamten

Ichafleg ekonomia fuetsau ha luñu` suetdun empleau siha guine gi todu atmos banda. Mas sapet para i empleau ni mangaige gi praibet.

Pot todu mas ke 14-mit gumagana suetdun popble (poverty)! Dañkulu na sapet para megai na familian natibu guine.

Yangin magahet na homlu` ekonomia-ta pues libianu ha palala`e todu gi hatsadan suetdu. Lau atlibes i mansañgan taimanu mana famta` gi alacha.

Sin ditension, ha pega i familia gi makat na sichuasion kada mes. Debi u dibina manu para u apasi finenina: neñkanu`, dibin guma`, kareta, kandet pat hospitat?

Gi katkuet disision masakrifisia i pumalu esta i sigienti pagamientu. Tai finagpu` na obligasion yan didog na sapet kada mes. Huñgan, guaha rumesisibi ayudun federat pot neñkanu` yan fanliheñg. Dispues de este kada unu konsu obligasioña.

I sensian ina`ayuda yan yine`ase` tumampen ñaihon i mas man-chatsaga guine. Ta dopbla mañgas-ta pot no u mafondu gi fachi` chinatsaga maseha haye gi che`luta. Estague` un` patte gi kustumbren tautau-ta ni sumen agradesiyun.

Iya hululu` na kehan tautau-ta i baratun suetdu, nanan chinatsaga gi todu halum guma` familia. Tihu komprendi haf` taimanu na masuñgun diariu todu modun sakrifisiu para u kontinua umapasi obligasion niha. Makat na kuentas i tinanahuñg salape` gi monedan familia.

Lastima sa` manpresente i offisiales siha lau ni unu gaige!

Digital Age: I finattun mafanana`an "Digital Age"—usun komputa yan internet—dañkulu na tinilaika ha afuetsas gi todu offisiu gi enteru elmundu yan guine mismu.

Deste offisiun hinemlu`, edukasion, yan enteru bokasion presisu ineyag komputa yan internet. Este solu na tinilaika lokue` kulan ha displanta kinalamten familia gi tutuhun. Mauleg sa` manhalum i mañaina ya siha muna` guaha areglu. Muna`lu tatte i otdinariu na konbetsasion familia piot gi oran sena.

Hombre `nai sige hu atan haf` mauleg na trastis modetnu para guahu ilegña lahihu na tai bisnisyu` fuera de laptop na komputa. Ai na chaleg pot magahet na kanaha` todu trastis para usun famaguon. Fiet magahet na usun diariu iyoghu laptop para manaitai, estudiu yan mañgge todu klasen asuntu.

In` hassu i mañgge katta ni debi tana` hanau gi Post Office? Pa`gu ti dies segundu siña un` usa i email para un` kompli mismu asuntu. Diaru-yu` yan famaguonhu ni mangaige chagu` man-kotbetsasion. Buenu!

Ekuñgug: Guaha `nai in` ekuñgug sentimentun tautau-ta haf` sessu pinadesin niniha? Kau in` kemprendi na sinsiyu finu` niha?

Guaha siha hu bisita kadu` aksidenti pot para bai ekuñgug yan pesa sentimentun i taugtau-ta siha gi `nos kuantus lugat. Megai man-namase` na estau `nai man-gaige. Mañasaunau gi halum batkadan 15-mit ni gumagana suetdun popble!

Sin ditension malagnus haf` chinatsagan niha. Ya hululu` pot baratun suetdu! Yangin 15-mit mangaige guine na esta pues kase 35-mit gi 38-mit na natibu man-mamatmus guine na fachi` sisonyan sapet pot pinepble.

Guaha mohon alibiu guine na patte? Pat buenti dinancheña `an man-ñgaha hit hulu gi Saina? Dios mihu! Ke lau man-malag manu i man-sabiun hegsu` I Deni`? Halo? EVERbody home?

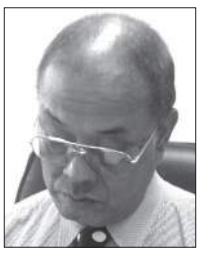
Obligasion offisiales publiku umaligau koyentura `nai siña guaha adumididi` ayudu gi pinadesin didog na chinatsaga pot baratun suetdu!

Guaha lokue` familia ni unu ma-empleleha. Hagas manman aligau sin felis sa` puru tautau hiyuñg mangaige. Taya` kampu para i tautu-ta gi taiguine na kondision. Mauleg este na chinatsaga?

Taya` dinisehan niha i para u fan gai appottunidat man-macho`chu` yan rikohe tatte dignun niha. Dinanche na maña i para u fañgalamten para u ayudan maisa siha.

Diberas, hu ekuñgug ekspression este siha na tautau-ta. Mampus na` triste. Na ti mamiresi mangai dignu gi hechuran cho`chu` kumu membron este na kumunida?

`Nai mattu gi otru nesessidat familia tai salape` para u kubre tat kumu lepblu, lapes, magagu yan dogan famaguon eskuela. Este na pinadesi oppan gi halum tautau-ta siha. Haye gai obligasion umadelanta este na chinatsaga?



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Pesadot: Gi un` lamasa gi fina` dinaña` tat kandidatu ti madisfruta. Hu sottan ñaihon i konbetsasion para bai ekuñgug mas haf` sentimentun niha.

Mientras ñahlalañg i konbetsa hu bira i kuestion tatte giya siha kumu botadot. Yangin mañaunau man-mabotan gi los prohimus kau makuestiotiona disision niha pa`gu? `Nos kuantos botasion mañaunau ya para u baba i binetan niha dispues de dos eleksion?

Dispues `nai marepapara na siha mas ke lamita gi probleman hinesguan niha. Ke lau fana`an kustumbre Chamorro ha` mafattan ñaihon sensian hipokritu.

Sahyan: Guaha siha numa`e animu mana`la`la` kustumbre ni patte gi kutturan natibu. Ha inklusu asuntun yo-`amte yan mamatinas galaide`. Gaige lokue` kanta yan baila-ta siha guine na ridondu.

Gi hilu` todu este haf` mohon i mas signifikau na attikulu gi masustenin kuttura? Ta bira hit dispues ya ta diskute este seriosamenti.

Neil Armstrong didn't forget the flag

History is usually airbrushed to remove a figure who has fallen out of favor with a dictatorship, or to hide away an episode of national shame. Leave it to Hollywood to erase from a national triumph its most iconic moment.

The new movie "First Man," a biopic about the Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong, omits the planting of the American flag during his historic walk on the surface of the moon.

Ryan Gosling, who plays Armstrong in the film, tried to explain the strange editing of his moonwalk: "This was widely regarded in the end as a human achievement. I don't think that Neil viewed himself as an American hero." Armstrong was a reticent man, but he surely considered himself an American, and everyone else considered him a hero. ("You're a hero whether you like it or not," one newspaper admonished him.)

Gosling added that Armstrong's walk "transcended countries and borders," which is literally true, since it occurred 238,900 miles from Earth, although Armstrong got there on an American rocket, walked in an American spacesuit and returned home to America.

Apollo 11 was, without doubt, an extraordinary human achievement. Armstrong's famous words upon descending the ladder to the moon were apt: "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." A plaque left behind read: "HERE MEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH FIRST SET FOOT UPON THE MOON, JULY 1969 A.D. WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND."

But this was a national effort that depended on American derring-do, sacrifice and treasure. It was a chapter in a space race between the United States and the Soviet Union that involved national prestige and the perceived worth of our respective economic and political systems. The Apollo program wasn't about the brotherhood of man, rather about achieving a national objective before a hated and feared adversary did.

By RICH LOWRY
King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Soviets putting a satellite, Sputnik, into orbit first was a profound political and psychological shock. The U.S. felt it had to rise to the challenge. As Vice President Lyndon Johnson put it: "Failure to master space means being second best in every aspect, in the crucial arena of our Cold War world. In the eyes of the world first in space means first, period; second in space is second in everything."

The mission of Apollo 11 was, appropriately, soaked in American symbolism. The lunar module was called Eagle, and the command module Columbia. There had been some consideration to putting up a U.N. flag, but it was scotched—it would be an American flag and only an American flag.

The video of Armstrong and his partner Buzz Aldrin carefully working to set up the flag—fully extend it and sink the pole firmly enough in the lunar surface to stand—after their awe-inspiring journey hasn't lost any of its power.

There may be a crass commercial motive in the omission—the Chinese, whose market is so important to big films, might not like overt American patriotic fanfare. Neither does much of our cultural elite. They may prefer not to plant the flag—but the heroes of Apollo 11 had no such compunction.

REMEMBER

From Page 10

who have returned from foreign soil and are adjusting to civilian life. Many carry the physical wounds of war—an amputated limb or traumatic brain injury. Others suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts.

As a nation, we need to do a better job of recognizing and addressing these mental illnesses, and making sure our veterans get the health care and job opportunities they deserve. As Bush said in his 2017 book, Portraits of Courage, "It was courageous to volunteer in the face of danger, and it's just as courageous to talk about the invisible wounds of war."

In Dallas, the Bush Institute has partnered with businesses, nonprofits and government agencies to help post-9/11 veterans make the often difficult transition to civilian life, find meaningful work and heal the invisible wounds of war. This is important work that deserves the support of Texans and all Americans.

Yet at the same time, it's important to acknowledge what the millions of post-9/11 veterans have given back to our society—as civic, business and political leaders—after leaving military service. According to With Honor, a nonpartisan super PAC dedicated to electing post-9/11 veterans to Congress, nearly 200 veterans are seeking U.S. House seats in the November elections.

On the nongovernmental front, veteran-run groups like Team Rubicon are stepping up and helping first responders and local communities meet the needs of disaster victims in the U.S. and abroad. Founded in 2010 by former Marines Jake Wood and William McNulty, Team Rubicon has grown from eight to 80,000 volunteers—70 percent of whom are veterans—and has responded to more than 275 disasters around the globe with humanitarian aid, including immediate rescue and relief operations, medical care and housing.

So, this 9/11, we remember those civilians who lost their lives on that horrible September day, and the first responders who saved so many. But we also thank and honor those who have defended our freedom in the 17 years since, and those who continue to serve humanity—in countless ways—after leaving military service.

(c)2018 *The Dallas Morning News*

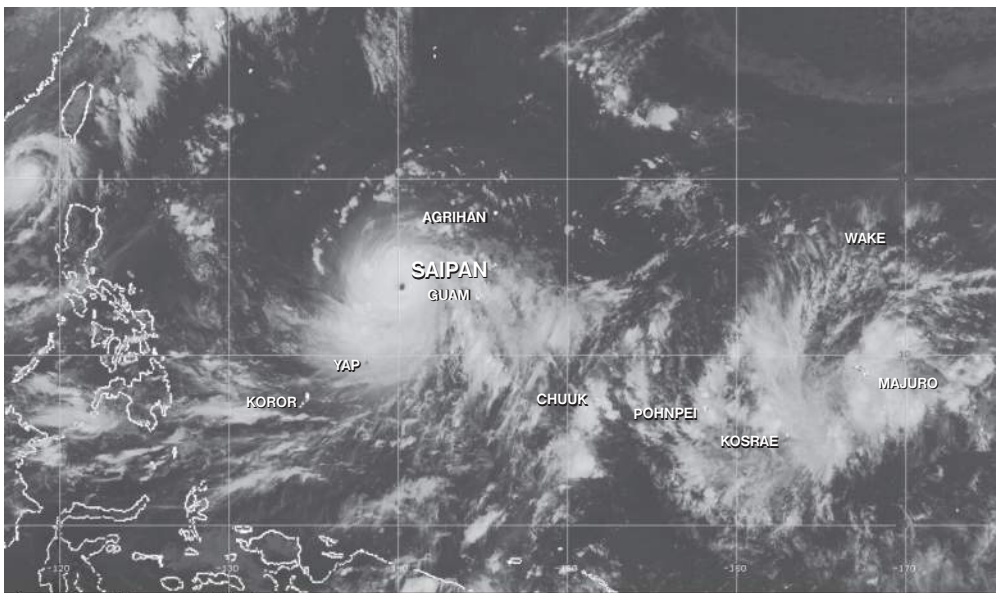
RUDY'S RESET
BY JOE "ALL THE PRESIDENT'S LAWYERS" FOURNIER
BRAND-SPANKIN' NEW TRUMP LAWYER RUDY GIULIANI EXPLAINS
GIMME A BREAK! I JUST STARTED YESTERDAY! WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS, BY PAYING STORMY DANIELS $130,000...
...MICHAEL COHEN WAS RESOLVING A PERSONAL AND FALSE ALLEGATION TO PROTECT THE PRESIDENT'S FAMILY. COHEN WAS THEN COMPENSATED $470,000 BY DONALD TRUMP.
...DONALD'S UNINVITED WHOOPSIE DAISIES ON ELEVATORS.
THE REMAINING $340,000 WAS SET ASIDE FOR "INCIDENTAL EXPENSES", WHICH, I BELIEVE CONSIST MOSTLY OF...
joe@joefournierstudios.com

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲85° ▼78°	▲85° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:11 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Mangkhut is now well west of the Marianas, with just the last rain band still near Guam. Unfortunately, radar is still down because of the loss of power last night during the typhoon. The weather balloon from last night south winds 40 to 50 knots from 1000 feet to 50 to 60 knots from 4000 feet to 10 thousand feet, then gradually diminish and turn southeast higher up. The buoys reveal 8 to 10 feet composed of a combination of trade-wind swell from the east-northeast and swell from Typhoon Mangkhut, from the west-southwest.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	61° / 52°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	88° / 68°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Honolulu	Rain	83° / 76°
London	Showers	59° / 46°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	80° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	64° / 48°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	89° / 80°
New York	Showers	81° / 73°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	84° / 72°
Paris	Sunny	72° / 52°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	77° / 72°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	90° / 66°
Salem	Thunderstorm	88° / 72°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	60° / 52°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	84° / 64°
Tokyo	Rain	73° / 66°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	85° / 74°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:24 AM	LOW TIDE	0.37
9:10 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.00
3:42 PM	LOW TIDE	0.23
9:38 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.97

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:21 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:20 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:19 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:18 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	8:12 AM	8:27 PM	-
Thursday	9:07 AM	9:11 PM	-
Friday	10:01 AM	9:55 PM	-
Saturday	10:54 AM	10:40 PM	-
Sunday	11:47 AM	11:26 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

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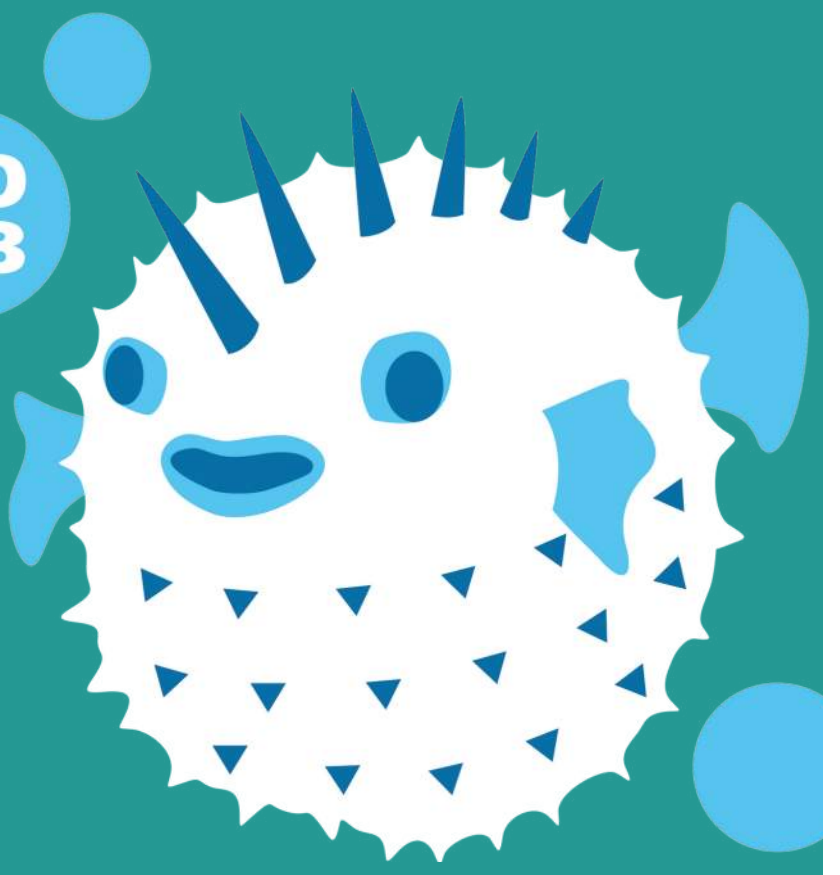
INTERNATIONAL *coastal* CLEANUP

2018



SATURDAY
September 15, 2018

Every year, the CNMI joins the world wide effort to fight ocean pollution by collecting and documenting the trash littering our coastlines and waterways. The Division of Coastal Resources Management would like to invite you to join this year's International Coastal Cleanup!

SINCE 2016, THE CNMI HAS HAD 1,784 PARTICIPANTS, REMOVED 7,254 POUNDS OF TRASH, COVERED 138 MILES, AND COLLECTED 51,519 ITEMS.

TOP 3

organizations with the most weight collected will receive a prize!

Contact Mallory Muña at mmuna@dcrm.gov.mp or Colleen Flores at cflores@dcrm.gov.mp, or visit DCRM for more information!

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Business

Japan proposes end to commercial whaling ban, faces pushback

FLORIANOPOLIS, Brazil (AP)—Japan proposed an end to a decades-old ban on commercial whaling at an international conference Monday, arguing there is no longer a scientific reason for what was supposed to be a temporary measure.

But the proposal faces stiff opposition from countries that argue that many whale populations are still vulnerable or, even more broadly, that the killing of whales is increasingly seen as unacceptable. Japan currently kills whales under a provision that allows hunting for research purposes.

"Science is clear: there are certain species of whales whose population is healthy enough to be harvested sustainably," reads the Japanese proposal, presented Monday at the biannual International Whaling Commission meetings taking place this week in Florianopolis, Brazil. "Japan proposes to establish a Committee dedicated to sustainable whaling (including commercial whaling and aboriginal subsistence whaling)."

Japan's proposal would also change how the international body operates, reflecting its frustration with an organization that it says has become "intolerant" and a "mere forum for confrontation."

It says it hopes that new rules — including allowing measures to be adopted by simple, rather than super, majority — would break longstanding deadlocks and allow the countries who prize conservation and those who push for sustainable use of whales to "coexist."

While Japan argues that whale stocks have recovered sufficiently to allow for commercial hunting, conservationists contend whaling on the high seas has proven difficult to manage.

"Time and again, species after species has been driven to near extinction," said Patrick Ramage, director of marine conservation at the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

If the ban on commercial whaling were to be lifted, it would then be up to the commission to set catch limits.

It's not clear when the vote will happen; the meeting lasts until Friday. It's also possible that the Japanese could pull back the proposal — or attempt to negotiate the inclusion of parts of it in other proposals.

Japan has hunted whales for centuries as a traditionally cheaper alternative source of protein. Its catch has fallen in recent years in part due to declining domestic demand for whale meat and challenges to its hunt.

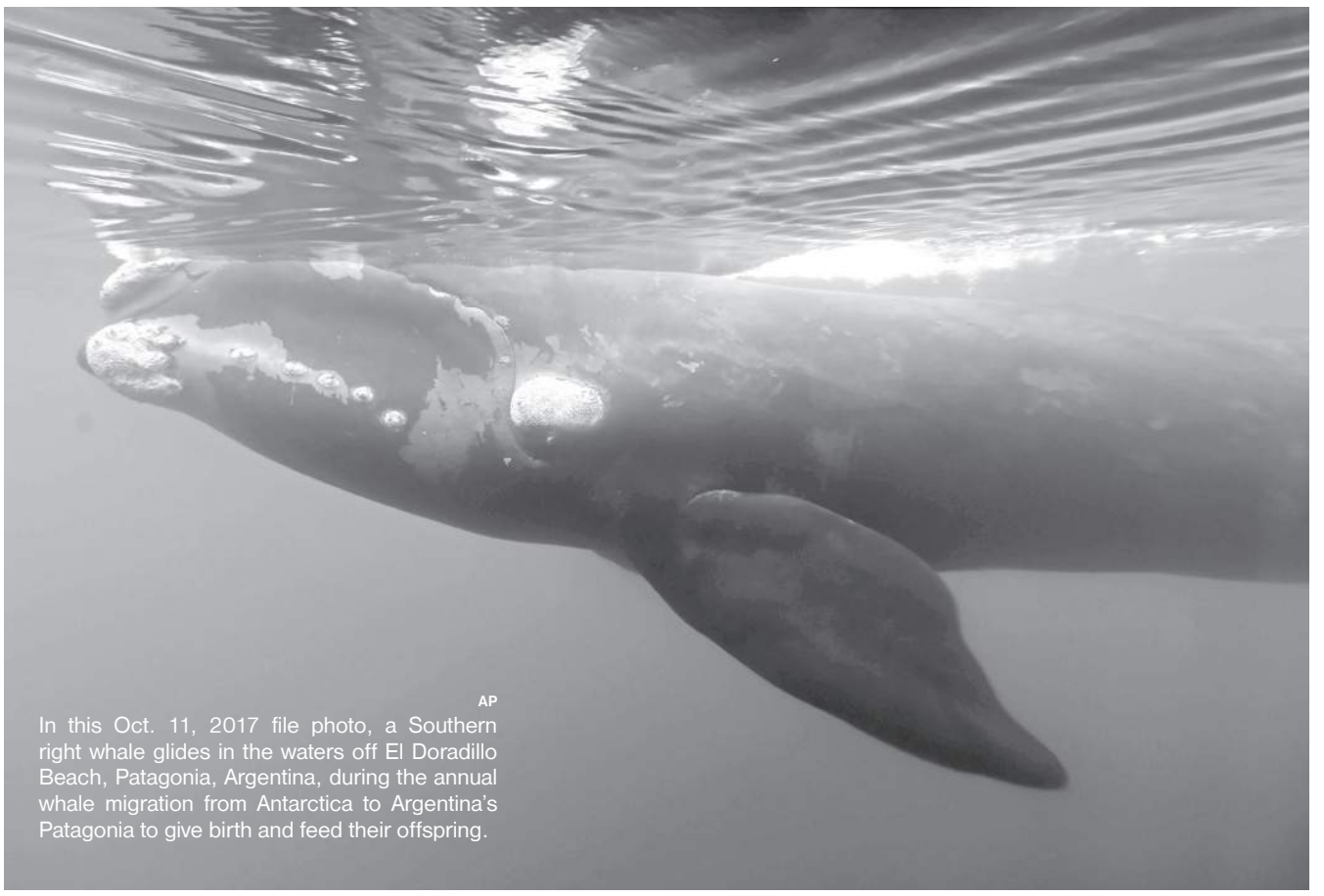
Its quota is now 333, about a third the number it used to kill before the International Court of Justice ruled in 2014 that its program wasn't scientific in nature. It revised the program and resumed the hunt in 2016.

Some, however, contend the research program remains a cover for commercial whaling because the whale meat is sold for food.

The attempt to reintroduce commercial whaling could be even more contentious. Brazil has submitted a proposal that says such whaling "is no longer a necessary economic activity, has systematically reduced whale populations to dangerously low levels." The United States agrees that the ban is necessary for conservation.

"The Australian people have clearly made a decision that they don't believe that whaling is something that we should be undertaking in the 21st century," said Anne Ruston, Australia's assistant minister for international development and the Pacific, on the sidelines of Monday's meetings. "The argument that we put forward from Australia is that we don't want to see any whales killed, whether they're killed because (of) commercial whaling or whether it's so-called scientific whaling."

The commission declared a "pause" to commercial whaling beginning in the 1985-1986 season, but it remains in place today. The killing of whales is allowed for research purposes, as in Japan's program, and for indigenous communities who practice subsistence hunting.



AP

In this Oct. 11, 2017 file photo, a Southern right whale glides in the waters off El Doradillo Beach, Patagonia, Argentina, during the annual whale migration from Antarctica to Argentina's Patagonia to give birth and feed their offspring.

GOP lacks votes—and appetite—to end 'Obamacare'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Arizona's new senator says he'd vote to repeal the nation's health care law. That's one additional Republican ready to obliterate the statute because his predecessor, the late Sen. John McCain, helped derail the party's drive with his fabled thumbs-down vote last year.

It could well be too little, too late.

After years of trying to demolish former President Barack Obama's prized law, GOP leaders still lack the votes to succeed. Along with the law's growing popularity and easing premium increases, that's left top Republicans showing no appetite to quickly refight the repeal battle.

"I'm not going to be asking for another vote on that this year," No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas said last week when asked if he favored reopening the issue in a post-election lame duck session. No. 3 House leader Steve Scalise, R-La., said, "We need to win this election and then get more seats next year." Each is their party's chief vote counter.

That means any serious push to annul the statute would almost certainly hinge on Republicans retaining House control and adding Senate seats in November's elections, neither of which is assured. If either goal eludes them on Election Day, President Donald Trump's ability to deliver on one of his top campaign promises would have to wait for a second term, if he gets one.

Republicans seemed to gain ground last week when Sen. Jon Kyl replaced McCain, who died in August from brain cancer. Kyl said in a brief interview that he would have backed the measure that McCain opposed, a pivotal vote that would have sustained the repeal drive.

"It seems to me that would have been a useful thing to do," Kyl said.

That bill failed 51-49. A "yes" from McCain would have meant a 50-50 tie that Vice President Mike Pence could have broken by casting his own vote.

Yet the two other GOP senators who also voted no, Maine's Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, haven't relented. With Republicans controlling the Senate 51-49, the GOP remains short of the 50 votes they'd need.

"I would still oppose outright repeal," Collins said in a short interview last week. In a written statement, aides said Murkowski "is not interested in another rushed, partisan process in the absence of a quality, comprehensive replacement" for the law.

Republicans have one fewer seat this year because Alabama Democrat Doug Jones defeated Republican Roy Moore in a December special election. Moore had defeated incumbent GOP Sen. Luther Strange in a party primary.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has ruled out revisiting the health care fight before November's midterm elections, citing the crush of spending and other bills facing Congress. He's displayed little desire to revisit the issue, which many Democrats are using in their election campaigns because Obama's law is widely accepted, especially provisions like requiring insurers to cover people with pre-existing medical conditions.

With automation, Korean dumplings go global in business bet

INCHEON, South Korea (AP)—Move over pot stickers, here comes another Asian dumpling.

South Korea's largest food company is making a multimillion-dollar bet on "mandu," developing its own machines to automate the normally labor-intensive production of the Korean dumpling and building factories around the world.

"It will be the next kimchi," predicted Cho Gun Ae, a senior researcher at CJ CheilJedang Corp. who has spent more than 20 years researching dumpling recipes and production.

The nearly 4-year-old effort is an example of how technology is transforming the food industry, in this case making over the image of frozen dumplings as a cheap and unhealthy product made by small companies. Automation made the quality, the look and the size of each bite-size dumpling consistent and significantly improved productivity, Cho said.

CJ recently opened a factory in New Jersey, its third in the U.S., and has expanded production lines in China and snapped up local companies in Vietnam and Russia so it can churn out more of its Bibigo-brand frozen dumplings.

Few workers could be seen on a recent visit to a CJ factory in South Korea. One picked out defective onions and cabbages from a conveyor belt where machines washed the vegetables with water and chopped them into cubes in seconds. At another conveyor belt, two workers picked out defective chives, while another checked the machines to make sure they were running smoothly.

A series of machines cut the dough into identically sized circles, dropped a dollop of filling inside and closed the dumpling into a crescent shape, onto which another machine put a frill-shaped pattern. Lines of dumplings streamed out on conveyor belts, like a production line of miniature cars. The facility in Incheon, outside of Seoul, produces 100 tons of dumplings a day.

One challenge was designing the machines that make the pattern on the dumplings. Instead of using machines made in Japan for its popular "gyoza" dumplings, CJ developed a new machine for mandu.

Last year, U.S. sales of CJ's Bibigo dumplings surged 70 percent to 175 billion won ($156 million).

Tess Sarosdy of San Antonio, Texas, who reviews ready-made foods on her blog "I Am Tired of Cooking," praised the mandu for being easy to heat and serve.

"American consumers are more familiar with pot stickers and not the Bibigo-style of dumpling," she said in an email interview. "My daughter loves them."

Moon Jung-hoon, a food business professor at Seoul National University, is upbeat about CJ's dumpling business.

Nation

Millions prepare for potentially catastrophic Florence

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—With mandatory evacuations already issued for parts of three East Coast states, millions of Americans are preparing for what could become one of the most catastrophic hurricanes to hit the Eastern Seaboard in decades.

Carrying winds of up to 140 mph (220 kph) as a Category 4 storm, Hurricane Florence is expected to strengthen and possibly becoming a Category 5 storm Tuesday. It's then forecast to close in on North or South Carolina on Thursday, hitting a stretch of coastline that's vulnerable to rising sea levels due to climate change.

"Please be prepared, be careful and be SAFE!" President Donald Trump tweeted Monday evening.

South Carolina's governor ordered the state's entire coastline to be evacuated starting at noon Tuesday and predicted that 1 million people would flee. And Virginia's governor ordered a mandatory evacuation for some residents of low-lying coastal areas, while some coastal counties in North Carolina have done the same.

AP

Chris Rayner helps customers load their cars as they buy supplies at The Home Depot on Monday, Sept. 10, 2018, in Wilmington, N.C.

The storm's first effects were already apparent on barrier islands as dangerous rip currents hit beaches and seawater flowed over a state highway.

For many people, the challenge could be finding a safe refuge: If Florence slows to a crawl just off the coast, it could bring torrential rains to the Appalachian mountains and as far away as West Virginia, causing flash floods, mudslides and other dangerous conditions.

The storm's potential path also includes half a dozen nuclear power plants, pits holding coal-ash and other industrial waste, and numerous hog farms that store animal waste in massive open-air lagoons.

Trump to mark 17 years since Sept. 11 at Pennsylvania field

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is marking 17 years since the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil by visiting the Pennsylvania field that became a Sept. 11 memorial.

Trump and his wife, Melania, were participating in Tuesday's somber remembrance in Shanksville. It's where hijackers crashed a California-bound commercial airliner on Sept. 11, 2001, after the 40 passengers and crew members learned what was happening and attempted to regain control of the aircraft. Everyone on board was killed.

Nearly 3,000 people died on 9/11 when other airplanes were flown into New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon in an attack planned by al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden. Nearly a decade later, bin Laden was killed in May 2011 during a U.S. military operation ordered by President Barack Obama.

Trump, a New York native making his first visit as president to the Shanksville site, will focus on honoring the many lives that were lost that day.

"Certainly the focus will be on remembering that horrific day and remembering the lives that were lost, and certainly honoring the individuals who were not only lost that day, but also put their lives of the line to help in that process," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Reward offered in shooting of endangered California condor

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The reward now totals $15,000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the shooting death of an endangered California condor. The condor was found with a gunshot wound in July on private property near the Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Kern County. The bird later died. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service initially offered a $5,000 reward and the Center for Biological Diversity tripled it on Monday. California condors are one of the world's largest birds with a wingspan up to 10 feet. Three decades after being pushed to the brink of extinction, the species is making a comeback in the wild. Condors are protected under California law and the federal Engendered Species Act.

Houston Chronicle reporter accused of faking sources resigns

HOUSTON (AP)—A *Houston Chronicle* reporter has resigned after questions arose about the existence of persons quoted in one of his stories. Austin bureau reporter Mike Ward had been with the *Chronicle* since 2014 after a long career with the Austin American-Statesman. In a statement posted Monday on the *Chronicle* website, Executive Editor Nancy Barnes wrote that another Chronicle *reporter* raised questions about whether persons quoted in one of Ward's stories existed. Barnes wrote that an initial review of Ward's recent articles found it difficult to verify a number of his sources. Ward didn't respond to messages seeking comment, but Barnes wrote that Ward insisted his work was truthful. Nevertheless, he resigned last week. She wrote that an independent journalist has been hired to further review Ward's work.

Police video shows shooting of Los Angeles officer, suspect

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles Police Department has released video from a shooting last month that killed a gunman and left an officer with a gunshot wound to her leg. The edited footage posted online Monday is from officer-worn body cameras and a police car dash-cam. It shows an officer approaching a car during a traffic stop on July 27 in North Hills. The officer recognizes the driver—32-year-old Richard Mendoza—and asks if he's still on probation. As Mendoza gets out of the car, he pulls a gun and shoots the officer, who collapses. Another officer opens fire, killing Mendoza. The wounded officer can he heard crying out as her partner radios for help. The LAPD is reviewing the shooting.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 094 D 05 containing an area of approximately 1,611 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan and will be included in a Second Amendment to Lease Agreement proposing to amend Lease Agreement No. LA12-005S. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands office located on the 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, and website at www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.

ii. The prospective lessee is Man Bao Corporation. The Directors of Man Bao Corporation are Ping Yin Cheung – President and Beihua Yuan – Vice President/Secretary.

iii. The proposed Second Amendment to Lease Agreement is compliant with DPL regulations. To extent it was negotiated, discussions were by Mr. Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose to operate a hotel facility.

The term of the proposed Second Amendment will coincide with the initial lease which is 25 years with 19 years remaining.

The proposed annual rental for Lot No. 094 D 05 during the term of the lease in the Second Amendment to Lease Agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property "plus" the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.

v. A copy of the proposed Second Amendment to Lease Agreement may be obtained at the office of the Secretary, Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. As of the time of this publication, the Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Garapan, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before 4:00 p.m. September 21, 2018 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN I MAPROPONI NA ATKILON TÅNU´ PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku mannånå´i guini nutisia put i intensiona ni para u ma´atkila i metton na tanu´ pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariånas. Maseha håyi na pattida ni intirisao gi hålum pupblikun hinerât siña muna´na´hålum upiño, infotmasion, pat testimoniun kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atkilan nu i tanu´ pupbliku. Kumu mås mo'na mapribeni ginin i Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi na pettanesin infotmasion manisisita na para u mapupblika.

i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu´ pupbliku madiskribi kumu Lot No. 094 D 05 ni konsisisti kåsi 1,611 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi giya Garapan, Saipan yan debi na u ma´ingklusi gi hålum Segundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ni mapropoponi para u amenda i Kontråtan Atkilon No. LA12-005S. I kopian pâttin i lugåt managuaha gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ni gaigi gi Sigundu na bibienda, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, yan website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.

ii. I prospective lessee Man Bao Corporation. I Direktot i Man Bao Corporation si Ping Yin Cheung – i Presidenti yan Beihua Yuan – i Sigundu na Presidenti/Sekritåria/Sekritâriu.

iii. I maproponi na Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ha tattiyi i regulasion DPL siha. Para inekstendi ginin manegosiu, i diskuti siha ginin as Siñot Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. I lessee debi na u usa i lugåt put atyu ha´ na rason i aktibidåt fasilidåt i hotel.

I tema nu i maproponi Sigundu na Amendasion debi na u konfotmi yan i fine´ni´na na atkilon gi benti singku (25) åñus na tiempu yan diesi nuebi (19) åñus na tiempu tetenan.

I manmaproponi na atkila gi kada´ såkkan para Lot No. 094 D 05 durântin i tema nu i atkilon i hålum Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon ma´estima gi pusentu i maperitun na bålin fair market i propiedåt "yan mås" i aplikåo na pusentun i Resibun Nina´hålum I Bisnis hålum regulasion i DPL.

v. I kopian nu i maproponi Sigundu na Amendasion para Kontråtan Atkilon siña machuli´ gi ufisinan i Sekritârian, Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku, gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building gi Dandan, giya Saipan, primet (1st) bibienda gi De'Ana Commercial Building, gi Songsong Village, giya Luta; pat i primet (1st) bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building, giya Tinian. I kopia debi lokkui´ na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Kumu gi tiempun nu esti pupblikasion, i Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ti marisibi ni hâfa na tinaguin inefresi siha ni para ma´atkila i suhetu na tanu´ pupbliku gi Garapan, giya Saipan.

vii. I Sekritârian Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku ha aksesepta tinigi´ upiño, infotmasion, testimoniun kinontra pat alternative proposals ginin i manintirisão na pattida siha gi pat åntis di 4:00 p.m. gi Septembre 21, 2018 gi ufisinan Dipåttamentun Tanu´ Pupbliku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONGOL POMMWOL ATKKILÓÓNOL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulaisyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap ekke attotoowow arongorong reel igha re mángemángil rebwe atkkillay falúw sángi faluweer toulap wóól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw kka Efáng llól Marianas. Schóó kka re mwuschel isiisilong kkapas, data, views, ngáre angiingi reel pommw ngáli atkkilóónol faluweer toulap. Eyoor sángi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritiw ebwe akkatéewow.

i. Faluweer toulap iye rebwe atkkilaay reel falúw kka, e bwáálo bwe Lot No. 094 D 05, e bwáá bwe 1,611 reel square meters, elapeló ngáre eghus, iye e lo Arabwal, Seipél me ebwe schuulong llól Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón bwe re pommw rebwe liiweli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón No. LA12-005S. Eyoor pappidil falúw yeel me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye lo 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, me bwal wóól aar website me www.dpl.gov.mp ngáre u mwuschel amwuri.

ii. Schóól atkkilóón nge Man Bao Corporation. Director-il Man Bao Corporation nge Ping Yin Cheung – President me Beihua Yuan – Vice President/Sekkretóóriya.

iii. Pommwol Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge e compliant ngáli mwóghutughutúl DPL. Eyoor tool igha re ppwol fengál, mwalilil sángi Mr. Ping Yin Cheung.

iv. Schóól atkkilóón ebwe yááyá falúw reel schagh mwóghutughutúl hotel.

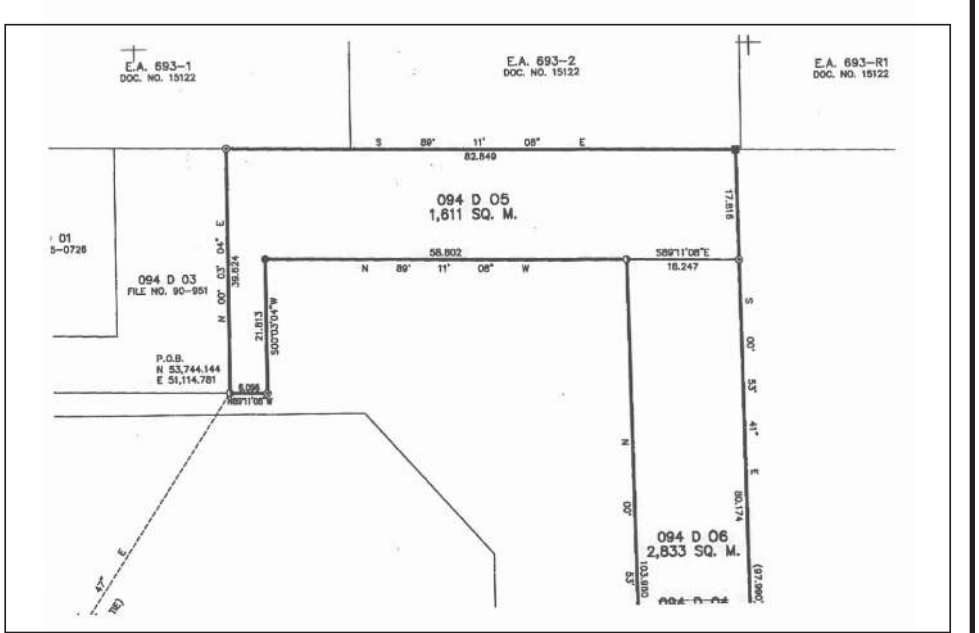
Pommwol mángemángil lappal ráágh reel Second Amendment ebwe e weewe fengál me bweletáál atkkilóón iye e lo bwe ruweigh me limoow ráágh fengál me seigh me tiwoow ráágh luusul.

Reel pommwol óbwóssul ghal llól eew ráágh ngáli Lot No. 094 D 05 atol atkkilóón llól Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón nge e lo reel percentage sángi appraised fair market value reel falúw "plus" applicable percentage reel Business Gross Receipts llól mwóghutughutúl DPL.

v. Pappidil pommwol Second Amendment ngáli Abwungubwungúl Atkkilóón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh mereel bwulasiyol Sekkretóóriya, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappid yeel online me www.dpl.gov.mp

vi. Atol oral arongorong yeel, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommw iye re siiweli ngáli atkkilóón iye e lo weiláng reel faluweer toulap me Arabwal, Seipél.

vii. Sekkretóóriyal Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap emmwelil bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angiingi ngáre pommw iye re siiweli sángi schóó kka re mwuschel wóól ngáre mmwalil 4:00 p.m. Maan 21, 2018 me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap iye e lo Seipél, Luuta ngáre Tchiliyól.



Asia

PH lawyers alarmed by Duterte moves to jail senator

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The largest lawyers' group in the Philippines asked the country's courts on Monday to resist "creeping incursions" on their independence and warned of judicial chaos after the president voided an amnesty for an opposition senator and ordered his arrest.

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines expressed alarm over the "audacity to publicly arrest and incarcerate" Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV for offenses that were canceled by a 2011 amnesty approved by President Rodrigo Duterte's predecessor and Congress.

Trillanes, who is Duterte's fiercest critic in Congress, has taken refuge in the Senate for nearly a week to avoid arrest after the president voided the amnesty for having joined unsuccessful coup attempts as a former navy officer. Duterte also asked the Department of Justice and the military to revive criminal proceedings against him, which Trillanes and some legal experts said violates the constitution.

AP

Philippine opposition Senator Antonio Trillanes IV talks to reporters outside his office where he remains holed up in the Philippine Senate in suburban Pasay city, south of Manila, Philippines on Monday, Sept. 10, 2018.

Duterte has been highly sensitive to criticism, especially over his anti-drug crackdown that has left thousands of mostly poor drug suspects dead since he took office in mid-2016. Trillanes has also accused the president of large-scale corruption and involvement in illegal drugs, which Duterte has denied.

Duterte said he was voiding Trillanes' amnesty because the senator had failed to file a formal amnesty request and acknowledge guilt for involvement in the failed coup attempts. Trillanes has shown news reports and defense department documents to deny Duterte's claims and asked the Supreme Court to declare Duterte's moves illegal.

Despite the legal questions, the Department of Justice has asked two courts to issue warrants for the senator's arrest and resume criminal proceedings against him.

The lawyers' group said the move against Trillanes "runs roughshod over the constitutional guarantee against double jeopardy," or holding a person to answer twice for the same offense. It said the judiciary could be subjected to an "anomalous situation" in which one court could uphold the amnesty and another rule to void it.

"The chaos that may result" from the government moves against Trillanes "undermines our systems that make the orderly administration of justice possible," the group said in a statement.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque asked the lawyers' group to "stop too much talk" and bring the issues to a court and not the media.

Although Duterte could order the military to arrest Trillanes to have him face a military court of inquiry into his past coup involvement, the president has said he decided to wait for civilian courts to rule whether the senator can be arrested to face trial. Trillanes, however, has declined to believe him and refused to leave the Senate, where he has held daily news conferences.

Duterte has also accused Trillanes, without offering evidence, of plotting with other opposition politicians, including the Liberal Party and leftist groups, to oust him by next month. Trillanes and opposition groups have dismissed the claim as a lie and asked him to focus instead on addressing poverty, inflation, rice shortages, a decline in the value of the peso currency and traffic jams.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters that communist guerrillas have had plans to oust Duterte, but that he is not aware "if other groups would ride on it. We do not know."

Group: Officials destroying crosses, burning bibles in China

BEIJING (AP)—China's government is ratcheting up a crackdown on Christian congregations in Beijing and several provinces, destroying crosses, burning bibles, shutting churches and ordering followers to sign papers renouncing their faith, according to pastors and a group that monitors religion in China.

The campaign corresponds with a drive to "Sinicize" religion by demanding loyalty to the officially atheist Communist Party and eliminating any challenge to its power over people's lives.

Bob Fu of the U.S.-based group China Aid said over the weekend that the closure of churches in central Henan province and a prominent house church in Beijing in recent weeks represents a "significant escalation" of the crackdown.

"The international community should be alarmed and outraged for this blatant violation of freedom of religion and belief," he wrote in an email.

Under President Xi Jinping, China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong, religious believers are seeing their freedoms shrink dramatically even as the country undergoes a religious revival. Experts and activists say that as he consolidates his power, Xi is waging the most severe systematic suppression of Christianity in the country since religious freedom was written into the Chinese constitution in 1982.

Fu also provided video footage of what appeared to be piles of burning bibles and forms stating that the signatories had renounced their Christian faith. He said that marked the first time since Mao's radical 1966-1976 Cultural Revolution that Christians had been compelled to make such declarations, under pain of expulsion from school and the loss of welfare benefits.

A Christian pastor in the Henan city of Nanyang said crosses, bibles and furniture were burned during a raid on his church on Sept. 5.

The pastor, who asked not to be identified by name to avoid repercussions from authorities, said several people entered the church just as it opened its doors at 5 a.m. and began removing items.

He said the church had been in discussions with local authorities who demanded it "reform" itself, but no agreement had been reached or official documents released.

Chinese law requires religious believers to worship only in congregations registered with the authorities, but many millions belong to so-called underground or house churches that defy government restrictions.

A local official reached by phone at the Nanyang city government disputed the account, saying officials respected religious freedom. The man declined to give his name, as is common with Chinese bureaucrats, while a person answering phones at the local religious affairs bureau said they were "not clear" about the matter.

In Beijing, the Zion church was shut on Sunday by around 60 government workers who arrived at 4:30 p.m. accompanied by buses, police cars and fire trucks, the church's pastor, Ezra Jin Mingri, said Monday. Zion is known as the largest house church in Beijing, with six branches.

The officials declared the gatherings illegal and sealed off church properties, Jin said, after already freezing the pastor's personal assets in an apparent attempt to force him to comply with their demands.

"Churches will continue to develop. Blocking the sites will only intensify conflicts," Jin told The Associated Press by phone.

A notice posted Sunday on the website of the Chaoyang district government in Beijing said the Zion Church had been closed because it failed to register with the government.

Taliban attack Afghan security forces in north, killing 52

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Taliban insurgents launched separate attacks on Afghan security forces in the country's north, killing at least 52, provincial officials said Monday.

Mohammad Yusouf Ayubi, head of the provincial council in Kunduz province, said that at least 13 security forces were killed and 15 others wounded in an attack on a checkpoint they were manning in Dashti Archi district. The firefight began late Sunday and continued into Monday morning.

Meanwhile in Jawzjan province, Provincial Police Chief Gen. Faqir Mohammad Jawzjani said the Taliban attacked Khamyab district from different sides, forcing Afghan forces to withdraw from the district headquarters to avoid civilian causalities.

"There was intense fighting and we didn't want civilian houses destroyed, or any civilian casualties," said Jawzjani. He said that at least eight policemen were killed and three other police were wounded. Seven Taliban were killed and eight were wounded during the gun battle, he added.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the group for the attacks in Kunduz and Jawzjan provinces.

The Taliban also killed another 14 local Afghan policemen and pro-government militiamen in the Dara Suf district of Samangan province, provincial spokesman Sediq Azizi said, adding that six others were also wounded.

Azizi added that three Taliban fighters were killed and four others wounded during the Monday morning battle.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack in Samangan, but Azizi blamed Taliban insurgents that are active in the province and often target Afghan security forces and local, pro-government militias.

Meanwhile in the northern Sari Pul province, the provincial governor, Zahir Wahdat, said that the Taliban killed at least 17 Afghan security forces and wounded three others in attacks across the province.

He said that 39 Taliban fighters were killed and 14 others were wounded in the battles, adding that the death toll could rise.

Gen. Abdul Qayum Baqizai, the provincial police chief, said at least two security forces were killed in the battles.

"The Taliban's attack has been repelled, but sporadic gun battles are underway at the outskirts of the city," Baqizai added.

The Taliban hasn't yet commented on the fighting in Sari Pul province.

Since a June cease-fire that marked the Islamic holiday of Eid al Fitr, Taliban insurgents have ramped up attacks against Afghanistan's security forces killing hundreds of security personnel in increasingly well-coordinated assaults across the country.

World

Iraqi city of Basra seethes over water crisis, unemployment

BASRA, Iraq (AP)—The brackish water pouring from the taps of homes in Basra has caused stomach ailments and skin rashes for thousands in the southern Iraqi city once famous for its network of freshwater canals that gave it the nickname the "Venice of the East."

The contaminated water, along with other failing city services and soaring unemployment in Basra, has fueled violent unrest since July in Iraq's oil-exporting capital.

During a week of demonstrations, protesters set fire to government buildings and offices of Iranian-backed militias that they blame for mismanagement and profiteering while residents struggle with poverty.

"We have a treasure trove of oil beneath our feet, so how is it possible we don't have drinking water?" said Zein al-Abedein Abdullah, a 19-year-old being treated at the overcrowded Sadr Hospital after the simple act of brushing his teeth with tap water at home.

The violence in Basra is threatening to spread to other cities in Iraq's southern Shiite heartland and the capital of Baghdad, where lawmakers are locked in a political struggle over who should be the next prime minister, with Iran and the United States each supporting rival factions.

AP

Security forces are seen in Basra, Iraq, 340 miles (550 kilometers) southeast of Baghdad, Monday, Sept. 10, 2018.

There are concerns that sustained violence could also disrupt oil production in Basra, home to 70 percent of Iraq's petroleum reserves, and at the country's main seaport of Umm Qasr on the Persian Gulf. That could lead to renewed chaos just as Iraq is emerging from a long and bloody fight against the Islamic State group.

At least 15 people were killed and 249 injured in clashes between protesters and security forces in Basra so far this week, health officials say.

Embattled Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi, who has ordered an investigation into the violence, visited the city Monday, triggering renewed protests following a one-night hiatus. Hundreds of protesters gathered in a central square, chanting anti-government slogans, with some calling on him to leave. Their key demands have not been addressed, and it will be an enormous challenge for the government to turn around services that are in a state of disrepair after years of neglect.

At a minimum, it will take five weeks to bring potable water to central Basra, said Gov. Asaad al-Aidani on Sunday.

A combination of natural and manmade factors has created the crisis, shrinking the network of waterways that made Basra the "Venice of the East," and also diminishing the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which nourished civilizations since antiquity and made Iraq known as the "Land Between the Two Rivers."

Streams and canals have become clogged with trash from dumping. A drop in seasonal rainfall, the use of upstream dams in Turkey, Syria and Iran, and a general crumbling of the country's infrastructure all have contributed to the acute lack of fresh water.

A salty tide from the Persian Gulf has advanced into the marshlands north from the Shatt al-Arab waterway—the confluence of the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers that Basra depends on—and seeped into once-lush farmland.

"How is it that we have to beg for water, and we have two rivers in the city?" said Khaldoun. "This is corruption," he said.

The tap water is now so salty and polluted it cannot be used for cooking or washing, much less drinking, and health officials said around 35,000 people have been hospitalized for stomach illnesses in recent months. The Sadr Hospital said its emergency room was receiving 600 cases of stomach distress each day.

"This water isn't even fit enough for cleaning," said Khaldoun Faysal, 48, who rushed his wife to the hospital last week after she became violently ill from the water.

At the Faysal's home, which Khaldoun shares with the family of his 44-year-old brother Zaydoun to save money, the taps are crusty with the salt deposits from running briny water.

Zaydoun is being treated for a rash on his arms and torso after he showered with the water. Now, he bathes his children, ages 7 and 5, in water he buys from private brokers, stretching the family's already-tight budget.

"It's a struggle with the children because they keep trying to open the faucets to wash," he said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Witness: 18 dead after explosion at gas depot in Nigeria

WARRI, Nigeria (AP)—A gas depot exploded in central Nigeria, killing 18 people and leaving some burned beyond recognition, a witness said Monday. More than 40 other people had burns after the blast in Lafia, the capital of Nasarawa state, taxi driver Yakubu Charles told The Associated Press. He said he helped to evacuate victims after more than a dozen occupied vehicles were set on fire. Victims had to be taken to hospitals on motorbikes as no ambulances were available, he said. Both the Nigeria Police Force and Federal Road Safety Corps confirmed the blast but declined to give a number of casualties. Nigeria's Senate president, Bukola Saraki, in a Twitter post called the explosion "horrific" and said he met with survivors. He offered prayers for families who lost relatives. Many gas dealers operate mini-depots in Nigerian cities with no strong measures to regulate their activities, leading to frequent explosions. In January, 10 people died in a blast in Magodo in Lagos state.

European countries warn against demolishing West Bank hamlet

JERUSALEM (AP)—Major European countries have issued a rare joint statement warning Israel against its planned demolition of a Bedouin encampment in the West Bank. France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom said on Monday its strategic location is important to maintain "contiguity of a future Palestinian state." "The consequences a demolition and displacement would have on the residents ... as well as on the prospects of the two-state solution would be very serious," their statement said. Israel says Khan al-Ahmar, an encampment of corrugated shacks east of Jerusalem, was illegally built and has offered to resettle residents 12 kilometers (7 miles) away. Critics say its removal is meant to make room for an Israeli settlement. Israel's Supreme Court rejected an appeal last week and the hamlet is expected to be demolished soon.

Authorities show off extraordinary discovery of Roman coins

ROME (AP) — Italian authorities are unveiling the "epochal" discovery of hundreds of Roman-era gold coins that were found during excavations to build a new apartment building in northern Italy. Construction crews digging in the historic center of Como discovered the small stone jar containing about 300 coins last week. Culture Minister Alberto Bonisoli joined archaeologists and the carabinieri art squad on Monday to unveil the first 27 coins after they had been catalogued. Bonisoli said the coins, believed to date from 474 B.C., were extraordinary but still not fully understood, primarily because the jar holding them is unusual compared to other Roman-era amphorae that were common containers at the time. He told a press conference: "More than exceptional it's epochal, one of those discoveries that marks the course of history."

Unlikely weapon: petanque balls help disarm Paris attacker

PARIS (AP)—They only went out to play a calm game of petanque and enjoy some late summer warmth by a Parisian canal. By the end of the evening, the three friends had neutralized a knife-wielding attacker who had stabbed seven people, with an unlikely weapon: the game's clanking—and hefty—metal balls.

Lobbing them in their dozens at the attacker and whacking him on the head with a wooden plank, they managed to bring the horror that befell the 19th district on Sunday night to an end. The attacker is now in custody and police are trying to piece together what happened and what the attacker's motivations for his bloody rampage were.

Without the bravery of the three friends, and the normally-slow-moving steel globes, it could have been a lot worse. The area, after all, was full of revelers from a popular cinema complex, tourists and families. Two British tourists were among those injured

Luckily for everyone there, petanque player Boudjema Hamani and his two friends were on hand and ready to wield their own weapons of choice.

Petanque, a typically Gallic pastime played by some 20 million French in which a ball is slowly rolled along the gravelly ground, is ubiquitous in Parisian courtyards in summer months. It's popular with the elderly, and does not have a reputation associated with danger, action or speed.

Until now.

In a surprise response at 11 p.m., the friends—none of whom can be considered elderly—chased the attacker, who officials believe is Afghan, down the street and showered him with their normally-peaceful steel spheres that can weigh almost a kilogram. Some 30 were thrown at the attacker as he was trying to stab people with a 40-centimeter (15-inch) kitchen knife. At least one struck his head.

Hamani, who helped disarm and arrest the knifeman, initially thought it was a normal commotion, perhaps a brawl, nothing especially out of the ordinary.

"But some young girls and young boys ran toward us, telling us 'careful, careful, he has a knife,'" Hamani told The Associated Press.

It was when the knifeman arrived on the Bassin de la Villette canal that Hamani and his friends started throwing their uncommon projectiles and anything else they could find, at him, until he lost his balance and fellow petanque player Reda Smain hit him on the head with a wooden plank.

Smain then managed to wrest the knife away from the attacker, as his friends were able to "block him on the ground," until plain-clothes police arrived.

Focus

AP

People walk past election posters near the Swedish parliament in Stockholm, Monday Sept. 10, 2018, the day after general elections in Sweden. Sweden was looking at weeks of uncertainty and complex coalition talks after the country's two rival blocs failed to secure a clear governing majority in elections that saw a boost for a far-right party — considered political pariahs — amid growing discontent with large-scale immigration.

Sweden joins Europe's move to right over

MIGRATION BACKLASH

By PIETRO DECRISTOFARO and JEFF SCHAEFFER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Sweden has become the latest European country to have its political order shaken by a backlash against large-scale immigration, with voters giving a boost to a far-right party and weakening the more established ones.

Sunday's election left the two rival blocs—a center-left group and a center-right alliance—with roughly 40 percent of the vote each, portending what is likely to be weeks of uncertainty and complex coalition talks before a new government can be formed.

The Sweden Democrats, which has roots in a neo-Nazi movement but has worked to soften its image, won 17.6 percent, up from 13 percent in 2014, for a third-place finish. That showing is not strong enough for it to lead a government, but it reflects how deeply that Sweden, famous for its progressive policies, is being transformed by migration.

The country that is home to the Nobel prizes and militarily neutral policies for the better part of two centuries has been known for its comparatively open doors to migrants and refugees.

Sunday's general election was the first since Sweden, with a population of 10 million, took in a record 163,000 migrants in 2015—the highest per capita of any European country.

That had followed the earlier arrival of hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers.

Since 2015, the center-left government has sharply restricted immigration, but many Swedes complain that society cannot cope with integrating so many newcomers, many of them Muslims from Africa and the Middle East.

The growing strength of the Sweden Democrats also reflects how old taboos are collapsing.

Only a few years ago, Swedes would be shunned as racist for suggesting the country had limits on how many migrants it should take, or for expressing the view that it is hard to integrate Africans and Arabs. But people increasingly are expressing such ideas more freely—adding to the support for the party.

While the result is a boost for the Sweden Democrats, the party fell short of pre-election predictions.

The Expressen tabloid said in editorial that "it all pointed at the Sweden Democrats taking over the position as Sweden's second-biggest party. But the expected ... bang didn't happen."

The election came after populist and anti-migrant parties made significant political gains in Germany, Austria and Italy since 2015—the other countries that have shouldered the heaviest burden of accommodating those fleeing war and conflict or simply searching for a better life elsewhere.

Sweden also gained international scrutiny after U.S. President Donald Trump portrayed the country as place where multiculturalism has brought crime and insecurity.

In early 2017, Trump claimed that a terrorist attack had happened the previous night in Sweden. The night, in fact, had been quiet, but Trump had seen a Fox News report about crime by immigrants in Sweden. He has insisted that he is still right about the general picture of the country as one where large-scale migration has brought security threats.

That narrative of Sweden as a failed multicultural experiment is also pushed by some on the right in Europe. While some Swedes say there is some truth to that, others feel it is too exaggerated and ignores the fact that Sweden is a place with a strong economy where many things work very well.

Both the left-leaning bloc led by the Social Democrats and the center-right bloc, in which the Moderates is the largest of four parties, have said they would refuse to consider the Sweden Democrats as a coalition partner.

Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, who brought the Social Democrats to power in 2014, said he intended to remain in the job. His party emerged with the greatest share of the vote—28.4 percent as the count neared completion—yet is looking at holding fewer seats in parliament than four years ago.

Lofven told his supporters the election presented "a situation that all responsible parties must deal with," adding that "a party with roots in Nazism" would "never ever offer anything responsible but hatred."

"We have a moral responsibility. We must gather all forces for good. We won't mourn, we will organize ourselves," he said.

Good Housekeeping

Border and basket columns give magical garden color, floating on air

TNS

Border column planters give a vertical dimension to the landscape.

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Basket or border columns may not be something you have heard of or have tried, and you may be asking what a basket column is. My best description is a large wire basket with a coconut coir liner that gives the appearance of floating on air by virtue of being mounted on a 4-by-4-foot post or metal column.

I first saw something similar more than a decade ago at Goldsmith Seed in Gilroy, Calif. The event was showcasing their new Bada Bing Bada Boom begonia series. It seemed everywhere you looked there were these begonias almost floating on air. I thought to myself wow let's take this idea to the landscape.

Today the concept is easy thanks to Pamela Crawford's designed columns and baskets with the Kinsman Company. All I can say is, "Holy Wow," how stunningly beautiful, everyone should give these a try.

As a garden writer and horticulturist, I was in luck, as my son James, the color guru for Grow Landscape in Columbus, Ga., had a client, who was eager to give them a try. He purchased 6 of them and artistically arranged them along the front of a tall porch of a Southern Style home located in Old Town, a Southern Living Community.

The baskets come prepunched with holes allowing for easy planting. You might think the design would be hard but in reality, the same idea of thriller, spiller-and-filler is applicable, you just have the option of choosing more species of plants.

Like all container growing during a long hot summer, regular watering is part of the regimen thus it stands to reason that leaching of nutrients will occur and regular feeding will be critically important to keep the plants performing. The Columbus area has had quite a bit of rain and heat but now five months later the baskets are still stopping traffic.

Visit www.kinsmangarden.com to see the planters and also to get visual instructions on planting the baskets.

If you are one of those gardeners who excels when it comes to container gardens but perhaps lacks the success you want in the landscape, it's likely due to the good soil mix you use in containers and perfect drainage.

You will find this same success with the border column and basket column planters. Be sure not to skimp on the soil; buy soil that is light and airy and sold by the cubic foot. It is also a good idea to buy soil with controlled released granules already incorporated into the mix. During the growing season feed regularly with a dilute water-soluble fertilizer. You will be amazed at the ability of plants like petunias and calibrachoas to keep growing and blooming with regular fertilization.

These planters aren't just for the warm season but also for the long, cool season ahead too. Trailing pansies, trailing snapdragons, lamiums, euphorbias, and ornamental kale and cabbage all embrace the change in temperatures. If you thought container gardening, growing in baskets and window boxes was fun, just wait until you try the new border columns or basket columns.

TNS

Border column planters look as though they are floating on air.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

Dilwei Agnes Skilang Sablan

Born January 21, 1930, passed away in the early morning of September 2nd, 2018, at the age of 88 at her daughter's home in Saipan.

In her heavenly home Agnes joins her husband Juan Atalig Sablan; sons Henry, Gerald Victor, Tao and Jeffrey.

Agnes is survived by her children - **Mike** & Violy (Stephen, Zachary and Adam); **Virginia** & Andy (Matthew and Kaela), **Cathy** (K.Cyji/JJ, Charles Pablo and Jose); **Children** of Henry; **Children** of Gerald Victor; **Children** of Tao; **Ninos** & Monica; **Willy** (Eric & Pamela); family-brother **Ephraim** & Joyce. Her siblings **Benjamin** & †Humie, Suki & **Damiana**, Bill & **Julie**.

Daily rosary is held at St. Jude Church at 7:00pm - September 3rd to September 9th, 2018.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Thursday, September 13th, 2018 at Mt. Carmel Cathedral.

10:00am Responso and Holy Rosary
10:30am Mass and Burial at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery

Respecting Agnes' wish, there will be no public viewing.

Mesulang, Si Yu'us Maase and Thank You for your prayers, intimate condolences and taking time to grieve with us.

Mike, Virg, Cathy, Ninos, Willy, Ephraim and Agnes' grand & great-grand children

Life & Style

‘A Star Is Born’ mania sweeps over Toronto Film Festival

TORONTO (AP)—The response to Bradley Cooper’s romantic saga “A Star Is Born” has been intense. Critics have boasted of crying uncontrollably. Fans outside theaters have swooned for its star, Lady Gaga. Words like “glorious,” ″rapturous” and, of course, “gaga” are running rampant.

“Having been on the other side of it, when you do something that doesn’t do well, people tend to avoid you,” Cooper said in an interview alongside his co-star. “I don’t see people, like, going the other way as I’m walking down the street.”

Quite the contrary. Since making landfall at the Toronto International Film Festival, “A Star Is Born” has provoked the kind of mania rarely seen in even the feverish realm of a film festival. It’s been hailed as “a transcendent Hollywood movie” (per Variety) and “damned near perfect” (per Rolling Stone).

Anthony Ramos, from left, Lady Gaga, Bradley Cooper and Dave Chappelle attend the press conference for “A Star Is Born” on day 4 of the Toronto International Film Festival at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, in Toronto. AP

And it has predictably flown to the top of Oscar prediction lists in just about every category, including its original songs. It’s a breakthrough for Cooper, directing for the first time, and Gaga, who’s leading a movie for the first time.

“I have been trying not to read any reviews. But every once in a while, my friends will read over and go (shoving phone in face): ‘You have to see this!’” says Gaga. “But I have to say truly, I feel like an audience member now. Watching the film back, it really impacts me on a deep emotional level.”

And it seems to be impacting those in the audience similarly. Even its trailer, watched by millions on YouTube, has sparked a rare eagerness. Anthony Ramos, who plays a friend of Gaga’s character in the film, said he’s been constantly harangued about details making the film.

“It’s lighting in a bottle, man,” said Ramos. “From the moment I stepped on set, the way Bradley works and the way Stefani works, I was like, ‘This could be crazy.’ And sure enough, here we are and people are buggin’ out.”

Acclaim hasn’t been universal for “A Star Is Born,” which stars Cooper as the seasoned rock star Jackson Maine and Gaga as a struggling artist he falls in love with. Its sheer popularity is certain to engender the kinds of waves of backlash that are typical of any big cultural force parading through Oscar season.

Warner Bros. will release the film Oct. 5 and is planning a sizable awards campaign. It’s the third remake of the original 1937 film, following the 1954 version with Judy Garland and James Mason, and the more rocking 1976 version, with Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson.

Study: Middle Eastern actors ignored, stereotyped by TV

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actors and characters of Middle Eastern and North African descent are either ignored by TV or stereotyped, according to a new study.

The few such actors who get work are largely confined to playing tyrants and terrorists, said the university-funded study released Monday.

One percent of regularly seen TV series actors have roots in countries including Egypt, Turkey and Israel. But estimates show about 3 percent of the U.S. population, 10 million people, are from the region, said the study’s lead author, Biola University associate professor Nancy Wang Yuen.

Researchers who examined 242 scripted prime-time series on broadcast, cable and streaming during the 2015-16 season found that between 90 percent and 97 percent had no characters of Middle Eastern or North African ethnicity.

When those characters do appear, 78 percent are tyrants or trained terrorists, agents or soldiers, the study said. Most speak with obvious foreign accents.

Ninety percent of shows with such characters feature just one—with the now-ended “Tyrant,” a drama set in the Middle East, among the exceptions.

The study warned that such depictions can contribute to the rise of anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant sentiment in American society.

Three instances were described as “exemplary” in the report: Iranian-American actress Necar Zadegan’s portrayal of an attorney on Bravo’s “Girlfriend’s Guide to Divorce,” the cyber-security engineer played by Egyptian-American (and Emmy-winning) actor Rami Malek on “Mr. Robot” and a tennis pro on Amazon’s “Red Oaks” played by Turkish-American actor Ennis Esmer.

“His ethnicity doesn’t define the role, and he gets to be a full person aside from that, and in fact because of that,” Esmer said of his character in a statement.

The entertainment industry as a whole must seek change, the study said. It recommended steps including the hiring and mentoring of Middle East and North African actors, directors, executives and others.

The study cited the work of actress Azita Ghanizada, who founded an advocacy coalition that successfully lobbied Hollywood guilds to include Middle East and North African performers in casting data reports.

Lawyer: Miss America report finding no bullying a whitewash

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Hours after a new Miss America was crowned, the Miss America Organization released a report Monday denying the outgoing one had been bullied by pageant leaders including chairwoman Gretchen Carlson.

The lawyer for former Miss America Cara Mund called the report, commissioned by the Miss America Organization, “dishonest” and “a complete whitewash.”

Mund was not interviewed for the report. She had offered to meet with an investigator working on the report after the next Miss America was crowned Sunday, but pageant officials insisted it had to happen before then.

The report was intended to put an end to a turbulent year in which the former leaders of the Miss America Organization were forced from office by a misogynistic email scandal, new female leaders took over and dropped the swimsuit competition, state pageant officials revolted against the new leadership, and Mund herself took the extraordinary step of saying Carlson and CEO Regina Hopper bullied her.

But it does not appear the issue is going away anytime soon.

“None of the information gathered indicates that she was treated in a way which would be considered inappropriate either in a typical business setting or in this particular work context,” read the report, which was carried out by a third party employment practices consulting firm hired by the Miss America Organization.

Roger Haber, Mund’s attorney, rejected the report.

“This document is not only dishonest, but a complete whitewash,” he said. “It contains a series of unsupported conclusions, without any factual basis. It was what we expected when the MAO decided to proceed without speaking with Miss America 2018 Cara Mund, the person who raised the allegations in the first place.”

In a letter sent to former Miss Americas in August, Mund broke her silence about how she feels she was treated under Carlson and Hopper’s leadership.

“Let me be blunt: I strongly believe that my voice is not heard nor wanted by our current leadership; nor do they have any interest in knowing who I am and how my experiences relate to positioning the organization for the future,” Mund wrote.

The report also found no evidence to support claims that Mund was silenced or retaliated against for raising concerns about her treatment.

After Moonves, CBS takeover possible in new media landscape

NEW YORK (AP)—The resignation of longtime CBS chief Les Moonves won’t likely lead to drastic changes in network programs, but a related deal could make the company ripe for a takeover as traditional media companies compete with upstarts such as Netflix and Amazon.

Moonves was ousted Sunday, just hours after the New Yorker detailed more sexual misconduct allegations against him. A dozen women have alleged mistreatment, including forced oral sex, groping and retaliation if they resisted him. CBS is on the hook for $120 million in severance if its investigation, being conducted by two outside law firms, finds no evidence of wrongdoing. Moonves has denied wrongdoing.

Even before the latest New Yorker article came out, Moonves was already facing pressure to leave. His departure was brokered as part of broader talks with CBS’ parent company, National Amusements, over the network’s future. Under settlement terms with CBS, National Amusements chief Shari Redstone conceded not to push for combining CBS with sibling company Viacom for at least two years, a merger that Moonves had opposed. National Amusements also agreed to a board shake-up that increased the power of independent directors.

The network was struggling when Moonves took over as entertainment chief in 1995. He quickly turned things around and churned out shows appealing to the older, more tradition-bound CBS audience—broad-appeal sitcoms such as “Two and a Half Men” and “The Big Bang Theory” and procedural dramas such as “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation” and “NCIS.” ″Survivor” was an early reality show hit, and continues to this day. Moonves became CEO of CBS Television in 1998 and CEO of the newly created CBS Corp. in 2006 after it split from Viacom.

Moonves’ temporary replacement, Chief Operating Officer Joseph Ianniello, has steered top projects such as stand-alone streaming services for CBS and the Showtime cable channel. But he doesn’t have a creative or sales background, which might make him an awkward long-term leader for the company.

Minaj calls dustup with Cardi B 'mortifying,' 'humiliating'

NEW YORK (AP)—Nicki Minaj said being involved in an altercation with Cardi B at a fashion week party was "so mortifying and so humiliating."

Cardi B tried to attack Minaj at the Harper's Bazaar Icons party in New York on Friday. Video circulated on social media showing Cardi B lunging toward Minaj and throwing her shoe at the rapper.

In an Instagram post, Cardi B—who recently had a child—didn't call out Minaj by name but alluded to the fight and said she was sparked because her mothering skills were being disparaged.

This combination photo shows Nicki Minaj, left, and Cardi B at the Harper's BAZAAR "ICONS by Carine Roitfeld" party at The Plaza in New York on Sept. 7, 2018. AP

"I wanna say that I would never discuss anyone's child. And it's so sad for someone to pin that on me because I'm the bad guy and they're gonna believe them," Minaj said Monday on her Apple Music "Queen Radio" show.

The rappers have been rivals since Cardi B began achieving huge success over the last year. Cardi B recently became the first female rapper to have two songs hit the No. 1 spot on the Billboard Hot 100 and her debut album, "Invasion of Privacy," is one of the best-selling albums of the year. Minaj continues to find success but has been displaced as rap's top female act.

Minaj said on her show that Cardi B "has built her career off of sympathy and payola."

A barefoot Cardi B was escorted out of the event last week by security and was seen leaving the party with what appeared to be a bump on her head.

"Get this woman some (expletive) help. This woman is at the best stage of her career and she's throwing bottles and throwing shoes? Who the (expletive) is gonna give her an intervention?" Minaj said.

Rapper Kamaiyah pleads guilty in airport disturbance

ENFIELD, Conn. (AP)—Rapper Kamaiyah has pleaded guilty to creating a public disturbance at Connecticut's Bradley International Airport in May when police say she went on a profanity-laced tirade against security officers.

The artist from Oakland, California, will be required to pay a fine of $50.

The Hartford Courant reports that her attorney said in court Monday in Enfield that she also wrote letter of apology to a state police trooper as part of a plea deal.

Kamaiyah Johnson hit the scene with her 2016 debut mixtape "A Good Night in the Ghetto" and appeared in a Sprite commercial with basketball star LeBron James.

She was arrested after police say she refused to remove a head covering after setting off an alarm. She was charged with misdemeanor breach of peace and interfering with police.

Olivia Newton-John diagnosed with cancer for 3rd time

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Olivia Newton-John says she has been diagnosed with cancer for the third time in three decades.

AP

In this Feb. 23, 2017, file photo, Olivia Newton-John performs during the Viña del Mar International Song Festival at the Quinta Vergara in Viña del Mar, Chile.

The four-time Grammy winner, who will turn 70 on Sept. 26, told Australian news program "Sunday Night" doctors found a tumor in her lower back in 2017.

Newton-John says she's "treating it naturally and doing really well." The "Grease" star says for pain, she is taking cannabis oil, made from marijuana her husband grows in California. She has undergone radiation treatments and has cut sugar out of her diet.

She said, "I believe I will win over it."

She said she hopes her native Australia will legalize medical marijuana.

Newton-John was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1992, undergoing a partial mastectomy and reconstruction. She was diagnosed with breast cancer again in 2013.

Autopsy performed on rapper Mac Miller, more tests needed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An autopsy has been completed but the cause of death is not yet clear for hip-hop star Mac Miller, who was found dead in his Los Angeles home last week.

Los Angeles County coroner's spokeswoman Sarah Ardalani said Monday that investigators have performed the autopsy and released the body to the family, but a cause will not be announced until the results of toxicology tests that can take weeks or months.

Miller's rhymes often dealt with his depression and drug use, and his fans and collaborators included some of hip-hop's biggest names.

Paramedics found him unresponsive and declared him dead on Friday.

Ariana Grande, who was in a two-year relationship with Miller until earlier this year, posted a black-and-white photo of him with no caption on her Instagram page Saturday.

Cosby lawyers fight testimony of other women at sentencing

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bill Cosby's lawyers will fight a prosecution bid to have other accusers testify at his sentencing this month on felony sex assault charges.

Prosecutors in Pennsylvania want at least some of Cosby's dozens of other accusers to testify at the Sept. 24 sentencing. Five testified at the spring trial, when jurors convicted Cosby of drugging and molesting a woman at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

In a court filing Monday, defense lawyer Joseph Green Jr. said testimony about uncharged conduct should be used in Pennsylvania only if a defendant remains a public threat.

"Allegations of misconduct that are more than 20 years old have no relevance to the (necessarily future) 'protection of the public' from an 81-year-old unsighted man," he wrote.

Cosby faces up to 10 years in prison on each of three felony counts, but could get far less under state guidelines.

Dozens of women have accused Cosby of sexual misconduct during his more than 50-year entertainment career, but nearly all of the claims are too old to prosecute. The criminal charges involve only his encounter with Andrea Constand, who worked at Temple University, where Cosby served on the board of trustees.

Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele has not said which or how many accusers he hopes to call to testify. Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt last week called the prosecution effort "another publicity stunt."

Judge Steven T. O'Neill has set aside two days for the sentencing hearing.

Man's social anxieties prolong his loneliness

DEAR ABBY: When I was a teenager, there were many times when I made things awkward. It continues today. I try to have normal conversations with people, but when I do, I have nothing to say. My mind goes blank, so I keep quiet and walk away. I feel like the odd person out each time and like I'm not good enough, and it really sucks.

The only time I'm successful socially with people is at work because I'm kind of forced to be. I really want to make friends and possibly get a girl in my life, but it's almost impossible to do with my social skills. This is so depressing and disappointing that I'm almost ready to quit trying. I need some tips and guidance. Do you have any?

FRUSTRATED GUY IN FAIRBANKS

DEAR FRUSTRATED GUY: I think so. If you think you are alone in having this problem, you are mistaken. The majority of people have the same insecurities you do. No one is born knowing how to be social. Social adeptness is a skill like any other. It can be learned and, with some practice and effort, polished until it becomes second nature.

You don't have to be handsome to be well-groomed. You don't have to be brilliant or witty, either. Part of being social is showing an interest in other people. Ask them about what they think and encourage them to share their interests and opinions. And when they tell you, be a good listener. Cultivate your own interests and you will have something to talk about with others.

My booklet "How to Be Popular" contains tips on how to approach others, and what to say and what not to say when trying to make conversation. It can be ordered by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mt. Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. When you receive it, don't read it just once. Keep it on hand for reference because it contains many helpful suggestions about how to be the kind of individual others find interesting and attractive. Be courteous and show kindness to others. If you do these things, you will find the results you're looking for.

DEAR ABBY: I was divorced three years ago after being married for 28 years. My ex-wife and I had spent the previous 10 years in counseling. I currently go to post-divorce counseling, and my counselor agrees that I was mistreated by my ex and our adult children, who treated me more like an employee.

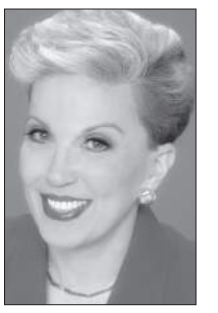
I have begun seeing a much younger woman, and two of my kids say any relationship with them is predicated on my dating someone "my own age." I feel this is wrong, and that it's a continuation of them treating me as a servant/dad, versus as a person. My counselor suggests walking away for a bit, to establish new boundaries. Your thoughts?

BUTLER DAD IN TEXAS

DEAR DAD: I think you should listen to your therapist.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

HOW ABOUT MARS? WE COULD GO THERE TO AVOID EARTH'S POLLUTION.
YEAH! IF WE GO NOW, WE CAN CLAIM IT AND KEEP EVERYONE ELSE OFF IT.
OK, IT'S SETTLED. MARS IT IS.
YOU FINISH PACKING. I'LL GO GET THE WAGON.
WE'RE GOING IN THE WAGON?
OF COURSE! WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO? FLAP YOUR ARMS?
I GUESS I HADN'T THOUGHT ABOUT THAT PART.
OBVIOUSLY.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

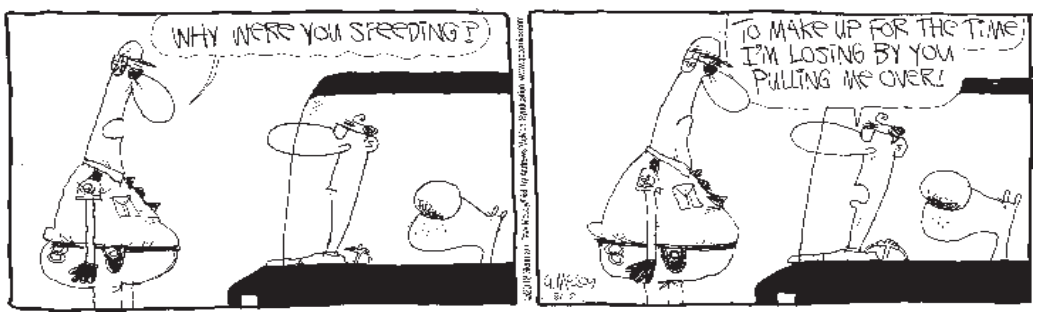
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

KATY'S IN A GLOOMY POET PHASE.
WHY?
'CAUSE IT'S SEPTEMBER. SUMMER'S OVER.
BUT IT'S 72 DEGREES OUT TODAY. IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
YEAH. TRY TELLING HER THAT.
HAS ANYONE SEEN MY BROODING SHAWL?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Mazel —!"
4 Gun the engine
7 Capital of Italia
8 Lukewarm
10 Writer Sontag
11 Draw forth
13 Closely held cooking instructions
16 Epoch
17 Varieties
18 Bake sale org.
19 Glimpse
20 Boxer Spinks
21 Grand parties
23 Future oak
25 Woody's son
26 Verbal
27 Gmail alternative
28 Bogged down
30 Clean-air org.
33 Surveillance devices
36 Mal de mer
37 Teen faves
38 Decade parts
39 Nullify
40 Bygone jet
41 Fannie —

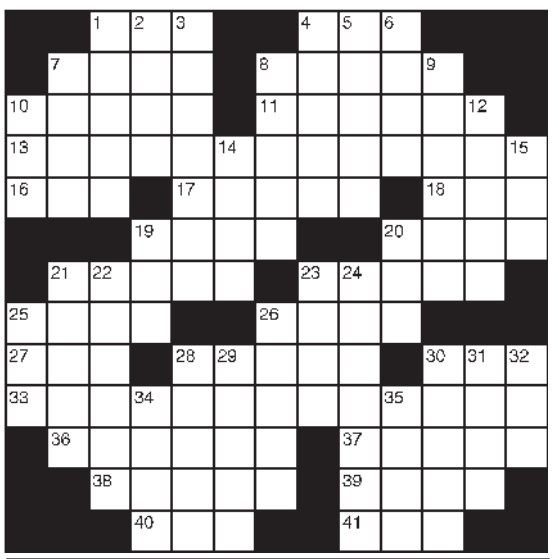
DOWN

1 Puccini opera
2 Sharif of "Funny Girl"
3 Actress Redgrave
4 Find a new tenant for
5 Grand stories
6 "Veni, vidi —"
7 Contrite one
8 Towel material
9 Ladle
10 Compass dir.
12 Wyoming's — Range
14 First-rate
15 — Salvador
19 "Xanadu" band
20 Texter's chuckle
21 Vault intersection
22 Dawn-to-dusk
23 Length x width
24 White metallic element
25 Contented sound
26 Killer whales
28 Mini-plateaus
29 Not moving
30 Wear down
31 — Alto
32 Ninny
34 Union payment
35 Author Ferber

Solution time: 23 mins.

P	A	C	K		E	N	S		F	A	D	E
O	R	A	N		D	C	I		L	I	A	R
N	I	L	E		G	A	R	B	A	N	Z	O
G	A	I	A	T	F	A		A	N	T	F	S
			D	O	S		L	E	G			
R	O	A	S	T		G	A	Z	E	L	L	E
J	N				I	I	M			Y	E	N
G	A	R	A	G	E	S		S	T	E	E	D
			R	O	D		C	O	O			
A	C		N	G		G	A	S	K	F	T	S
G	A	M	E	O	V	E	R		E	L	E	C
A	P	P	S		I	N	N		R	A	R	A
H	O	S	S		A	I	E		S	L	I	I

Yesterday's answer 9-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Potter, 23; Emmy Rossum, 32; Jennifer Hudson, 37; Benjamin McKenzie, 40.

Happy Birthday: Make noise if you don't like what's happening. You have a voice and some pretty good ideas that can change the way things unfold this year if you share your input. Trust in your knowledge, experience and ability to get things done instead of waiting for someone else to take over. Make this your year to excel. Your numbers are 2, 14, 23, 26, 35, 41, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Consider every angle before you decide to make a change. Don't let temptation get the better of you. Stand firm when dealing with responsibilities and assigning who will take care of what. Avoid insult or injury by distancing yourself from unpredictable individuals. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Use your resources and imagination to help deal with anyone who poses a problem for you. Have your facts straight and ready to share with anyone tempted to make your life difficult. A positive change is heading your way. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Keep busy. Idle time will lead to disagreements and face-offs with people who want to make you look bad. Concentrate on what you want to accomplish, and don't let criticism or complaints tempt you to say something you'll end up regretting. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Make changes that will bring you comfort or add to your convenience. How you handle situations involving peers will make a difference in your career choices in the not-too-distant future. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Temptation will be your downfall. Don't make changes that are costly or not fully considered. Be willing to do the work yourself. Minor mishaps will occur if you get into an argument with someone looking for a fight. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Set up meetings, discuss plans and make changes that will further your cause, purpose or plans. Getting along with others will help you gain support. Listen attentively and work diligently to secure your position, reputation and relationships with important people. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take on only what you know you can handle. It's better to do one job perfectly than to do several adequately. Focus on precision, detail and substance. Don't let complaints and criticism get to you. Believe and trust in your ability. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't get angry; be proactive. If something doesn't sit right with you, do something about it. Don't let anyone push you or take advantage of you. Do whatever it takes to maintain your integrity and your reputation. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Finish what you start and leave nothing undone. Taking care of your responsibilities will make it difficult for anyone to complain or make you look bad. Don't trust hearsay or get involved in gossip. Gather facts and assess situations thoroughly. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Test the water before taking a risk that may not be in your best interest. Trust in yourself and the plans you feel will bring you the best returns. Discuss joint ventures and the changes you want to make. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* You'll get fired up easily if someone causes you emotional stress. Calm down; listen to all sides of a situation before making an adjustment. Moderation and keeping the peace will be in your best interest. Walk away from erratic individuals. ✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Set your sights high and make your intentions clear. You can make a lot of progress if you are open about the end result you want to see take place. A personal relationship will improve if you make a promise. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are progressive, industrious and intense. You are innovative and insightful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7	2		4	5	8	6	
1			6				2	
4			9				1	
6			8			5		
	8	4				1		
7			5		3			
2			4		6			
3			1	7				
	6	5		3				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

3	9	4	8	1	5	7	6	2
5	8	6	4	2	7	1	9	3
1	7	2	3	6	9	8	4	5
4	1	5	9	8	2	3	7	6
8	3	7	6	5	4	9	2	1
2	6	9	1	7	3	4	5	8
6	2	3	7	4	1	5	8	9
7	5	1	2	9	8	6	3	4
9	4	8	5	3	6	2	1	7

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

COTTAGE LIFE — Solution: 6 letters

O	Y	T	R	A	P	I	R	T	D	A	O	R	K	H
I	W	O	C	E	M	T	E	S	N	U	S	E	A	C
T	E	W	A	K	A	G	G	E	W	E	R	M	Y	A
A	E	E	B	A	C	N	K	W	E	I	M	M	A	E
P	K	L	I	L	I	I	A	B	F	O	M	U	K	B
A	E	S	N	H	H	K	S	N	C	L	O	S	E	O
D	N	A	S	E	E	I	O	K	R	X	S	P	F	A
D	D	I	A	B	R	B	S	B	S	A	I	L	I	R
L	F	T	O	F	A	G	N	O	S	L	N	A	L	D
E	S	A	S	T	A	R	G	A	Z	E	G	S	D	W
S	R	E	O	N	A	C	B	T	E	R	V	H	L	A
D	F	N	R	I	K	S	T	E	J	T	R	A	I	L
O	R	D	O	O	F	A	E	S	C	D	O	O	W	K
C	U	T	S	E	M	A	G	A	M	U	S	I	C	S
K	S	L	I	D	E	S	U	O	H	E	E	R	T	L

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Barbecue, Beach, Biking, Boardwalk, Boat, Bonfire, Cabins, Camp, Canoe, Close, Dock, Fishing, Frisbee, Games, Hammocks, Heat, Hike, Jet Ski, Kayak, Lake, Music, Paddles, Party, Patio, Relax, Road Trip, Sail, Sand, Seafood, Sing, Slide, S'mores, Song, Splash, Stargaze, Summer, Sunset, Surf, Swim, Towels, Trail, Treehouse, Wakeboard, Walks, Waves, Weekend, Wildlife, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Unpaid

Treasuries 13 through 29 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Barber/Beautification - One to two years experience as Barber/Beautician. Knowledgeable in giving hair cut, hair colors, hair high-lights.

Submit applications to:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.
Tel.: # 235-1680

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

(1) MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR:
- Minimum two years of general maintenance experience and supervision.
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical, building construction, and general maintenance.
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Send resumes to: **Saipan SDA School Principal**
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan MP 96950

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-07

SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
2018–2019 VEHICLE (4 Door Sedan)

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for a 4 door sedan for the Judicial Administrative Office.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Ilimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
CHIEF JUSTICE

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Margarita Vallo)
Petitioner) FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0321
-vs-)
Chong Shin Kim) **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
Respondent)

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 151 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 7th day of August, 2018.

/s/ Clerk of Court

WHATZIT Solution: We'll meet again

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Faith, Hope and KARIDAT

INVITATION FOR BID

CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING LOT FOR SISTER REMEDIOS COMMUNITY CENTER

Karidat is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the construction of a parking lot for the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan.

Scope of work is available beginning August 23, 2018 at the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center. Requests may be sent via email to Judith Pangelinan at judypangelinan@karidat.org.

Questions or requests for clarification must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Judith I. Pangelinan and may be sent via email at judypangelinan@karidat.org no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM. Response to questions will be no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

The Award of this project is contingent upon final approval the Karidat Board of Directors.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sister Remedios Community Center Parking Lot" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan, no later than September 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at which time the bids will be publically opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Lauri B. Ogumoro
Executive Director

/s/ Judith I. Pangelinan
Administrative Officer

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 09-2018

Opening date: **August 15, 2018**
Closing date: September 14, 2018

Positions: (2) Custodial-I (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport.*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than **5:00 pm on Friday, September 14, 2018.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.boardsec@pticom.com by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

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Verlander triumphs in return, as Astros top Tigers

DETROIT (AP)—Justin Verlander drew several big cheers and pitched seven sharp innings in his return to Comerica Park while leading the Houston Astros over the Detroit Tigers 3-2 Monday night.

Verlander struck out 10 in his first game in Detroit since being traded to Houston in August 2017. The World Series champion Astros opened a three-game lead over Oakland atop the AL West.

Verlander (15-9) made his major league debut with Detroit in 2005 and ranks among the top 10 on several of the team's career pitching lists.

The 35-year-old righty received a long standing ovation after a video tribute was played as he walked in from the bullpen, and another when he came out to warm up for the first inning. Both times, he tipped his cap and waved to the crowd.

Verlander allowed two runs on six hits and one walk, improving to 98-50 at Comerica Park. Max Scherzer is second in career wins at the stadium with 46, while Jordan Zimmermann leads current Tigers with 14.

The Tigers put two runners on in the seventh, but Verlander struck out JaCoby Jones and Jeimer Candelario to escape with a 3-2 lead. He received a third standing ovation after the inning, having thrown 104 pitches.

AP

Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander (35) pitches against the Detroit Tigers during the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 10, 2018, in Detroit.

Brewers 3, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Lorenzo Cain had four hits, Mike Moustakas scored on Carl Edwards Jr.'s wild pitch in the sixth inning and Milwaukee edged Chicago to pull within one game of the NL Central leaders.

Orlando Arcia and Jonathan Schoop each drove in a run as Milwaukee (83-62) won for the seventh time in eight games. It's the closest the Brewers have been to the division lead since they trailed the Cubs by a game on Aug. 5.

Wade Miley (4-2) pitched five effective innings before Corbin Burnes, Josh Hader and Jeremy Jeffress closed it out for wild card-leading Milwaukee. Hader struck out six straight batters and Jeffress got three outs for his 11th save.

Rockies 13, Diamondbacks 2

In Denver, Trevor Story hit a three-run homer during a six-run fifth inning, German Marquez struck out 11 over seven masterful innings and Colorado routed Arizona to increase its lead in the NL West.

The Rockies moved 1 1/2 games ahead of the Los Angeles Dodgers, who lost at Cincinnati. The Diamondbacks now trail by 3 1/2 games. This is the latest the Rockies have been alone atop the division since 1995.

David Dahl put the game out of reach with his first career grand slam in a seven-run seventh. Arizona has allowed 10 or more runs four times this season — three of those to Colorado.

Story provided the big blow with his 32nd homer on a fastball from Silvino Bracho after the reliever took over from starter Zack Godley (14-9).

Reds 10, Dodgers 6

In Cincinnati, Scooter Gennett had four hits and three RBIs, Joey Votto hit a two-run double on his 35th birthday and Cincinnati improved to 5-0 against Los Angeles this season.

Eugenio Suarez homered for the last-place Reds, and Jose Peraza scored three runs. That helped Cincinnati overcome Chris Taylor's two-run homer and Yasmani Grandal's solo shot.

The Dodgers dropped 1 1/2 games behind first-place Colorado in the NL West when the Rockies routed Arizona.

Jared Hughes (4-3) got Yasiel Puig to line into a bases-loaded double play to end the seventh after an 11-pitch at-bat and added a perfect eighth to get the win.

Gennett went 4 for 5 to boost his batting average to .320 with his sixth multihit game in his last nine appearances.

Cardinals 8, Pirates 7

In St. Louis, Matt Adams hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning to rally St. Louis past Pittsburgh.

The Cardinals, who overcame deficits of 4-0 and 6-4, moved two games ahead of the Dodgers in the race for the second NL wild card.

Josh Harrison, Colin Moran and Starling Marte homered for the Pirates, who had their five-game winning streak snapped.

Adams homered off Edgar Santana (2-3) to erase a 6-4 deficit. John Brebbia (2-3) picked up the win.

Carlos Martinez, a former starter, earned his third save in three chances. He gave up a run-scoring double to Josh Bell with two outs but got Francisco Cervelli to ground out to deep shortstop to end the game. The play was reviewed, but Cervelli was ruled out.

Rays 6, Indians 5

In St. Petersburg, Ji-Man Choi hit a two-run homer off Brad Hand with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, and Tampa Bay beat Cleveland to set a team record with its 12th straight victory at home.

Cleveland ace Corey Kluber was chased in the second inning, but the Indians rallied before blowing a late lead. They started play with a magic number of five to clinch their third consecutive AL Central championship. Second-place Minnesota was at home against the New York Yankees.

Tommy Pham singled before Choi went deep against Hand (0-1).

Kluber lasted just 1 2/3 innings—matching his season low—and gave up four runs and five hits. The right-hander and Tampa Bay's Blake Snell are tied for the most wins in the majors with 18.

Jake Bauers homered for the Rays, who moved with 7½ games of Oakland for the second AL wild card with 19 games left.

Jamie Schultz (2-0) worked a scoreless ninth to get the win.

Royals 4, White Sox 3, 10 innings

In Kansas City, White Sox reliever Jeanmar Gomez threw away a bunt in the 10th inning, giving Kansas City a win over Chicago.

Brian Goodwin led off the Royals 10th with a double. Alcides Escobar bunted and Gomez (0-2) made a wild toss over third baseman Yolmer Sanchez, letting Goodwin score.

Jake Newberry (2-0) pitched one inning.

Whit Merrifield homered on the first pitch from White Sox starter Lucas Giolito. Ryan O'Hearn hit a solo homer in the sixth that made it 3-all. Adam Engel and Daniel Palka homered in the Chicago third against Jakob Junis.

Jose Abreu, activated from the disabled list before the game, had three hits for the White Sox.

Yankees 7, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Gary Sanchez had three hits including a mammoth home run, J.A. Happ tossed six shutout innings and the New York Yankees continued their mastery of the Minnesota Twins.

The Yankees increased their lead over idle Oakland to three games for the first AL wild-card spot.

New York has beaten Minnesota nine straight times, including last year's wild card game, outscoring the Twins 66-23. The Yankees are 20-4 in the teams' last 24 meetings since July 25, 2015.

New USMNT World Cup cycle begins with a loss and a lot of positives

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—In a sense, it was probably fitting to begin the lengthy and treacherous road to the next World Cup against the country that has won it more than anybody. What better way, after all, to test a new generation of U.S. men's national teamers, tasked with undoing the embarrassment inflicted by their predecessors in missing the 2018 edition, than a cycle-opening friendly against a star-studded Brazilian team, the five-time world champions?

On the lineup sheet, Brazil had a world-beater in every position, led by Neymar and Philippe Coutinho and Roberto Firmino and, well, all of them. The U.S., for its part, was without a household name on the field, since wunderkind Christian Pulisic was out with an injury. The other well-established names have retired, or are about to, or have faded from the picture, for now at least. A youth movement has been underway since a band of veterans fell short of qualification for the World Cup in Russia back in October. No American in the starting lineup on Friday was older than 25 and the average age was a tad under 23.

Quietly, that young group has posted solid results and given heartening performances against world powers like European champions Portugal and soon-to-be world champions France—both ties—even though the permanent head coaching position has remained vacant all this time.

If the Brazilians had an obvious upper hand in terms of talent and notoriety, they were also the overwhelming favorites of the yellow-clad crowd. The Brazilian partisans had massed around early, grilling in the parking lot and hoping for a glimpse of their many stars outside the players' entrance. At MetLife Stadium, in the rather populous state of New Jersey, a more-than-half-empty stadium—likely because of towering ticket prices—was unambiguous in its support of the visiting nation, save for a section of American Outlaws, continuing an unfortunate tradition of the U.S. effectively acting as the away team on home soil.

Yet for all those disadvantages, the Americans acquitted themselves remarkably well, in spite of taking a 2-0 loss. With the standard disclaimers about the inherent difficulty in assessing friendly games assumed here, it wasn't at all a bad runout. In fact, this was the closest the U.S. had played Brazil in many years—with a head-to-head record that now stands 18-1 in the Brazilians' favor.

Djokovic rejoins 'Big 3'; Osaka jumps to No. 7

NEW YORK (AP)—Novak Djokovic moved up three spots to No. 3 in the ATP rankings on Monday, a day after claiming his 14th Grand Slam title at the 2018 U.S. Open.

Djokovic is behind Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, with the trio occupying the top three spots in the rankings again for the first time in more than three years.

Naomi Osaka vaulted 12 spots to a career-high No. 7 in the WTA rankings following her first career Grand Slam title. She beat Serena Williams in Saturday's controversial women's final, while Williams rose 10 spots to No. 16.

Djokovic underwent elbow surgery in February and fell as low as No. 22 in the rankings in May, which marked his first time out of the top 20 since 2006. However, he claimed the final two majors of 2018, adding the U.S. Open to his Wimbledon triumph earlier this summer.

Djokovic became the seventh player with at least three U.S. Open titles and has an opportunity to reclaim the No. 1 ranking before the end of the year. Nadal retained the top spot despite being forced to withdraw from his semifinal match in Flushing Meadows due to knee pain. Federer was knocked out in the fourth round.

Federer holds the Open Era record with 20 major titles, followed by Nadal (17). Djokovic has equaled Pete Sampras with 14.

"Pete Sampras is one of the biggest legends ever to play the game," Djokovic said Sunday. "He was my childhood idol. He was someone I was looking up to. The first actually thing I saw related to tennis on the TV was his first or second Wimbledon championship. That inspired me to start playing tennis.

"There is a lot of significance of me being now shoulder to shoulder in terms of Grand Slam wins with him."

Simona Halep retained the top spot on the women's side despite losing in the first round of the U.S. Open, followed by Caroline Wozniacki and Angelique Kerber. Caroline Garcia jumped two spots to No. 4.

Osaka, 20, is the youngest player in the Top 10. She vaulted ahead of 2017 U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens, who dropped six spots to No. 9.

AP

Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina during the men's final of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, in New York.

ITF defends umpire after Serena flap

The International Tennis Federation is defending the chair umpire who gave Serena Williams three code violations during the U.S. Open final, saying his "decisions were in accordance with the relevant rules."

Williams was cited by Carlos Ramos three times Saturday during her 6-2, 6-4 loss to Osaka: for getting coaching signals; for breaking her racket, which cost her a point; and for calling Ramos a thief, which cost her a game.

On Sunday, the tournament referee docked Williams $10,000 for "verbal abuse" of the chair umpire, $4,000 for being warned for coaching and $3,000 for breaking her racket.

The ITF said in a statement Monday that Ramos' citations were "reaffirmed by the U.S. Open's decision to fine Serena Williams for the three offenses."

The governing body of tennis added that: "Ramos undertook his duties as an official according to the relevant rule book and acted at all times with professionalism and integrity."

Minnesota signs Deng for another Thibodeau reunion

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The Minnesota Timberwolves have signed free agent forward Luol Deng, the latest former Chicago Bulls player to reunite with coach Tom Thibodeau.

Deng's one-year deal is for the minimum salary of $2.4 million for a player with his experience, according to a person with knowledge of the contract who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team does not release terms.

Deng will join former Bulls teammates Jimmy Butler, Taj Gibson and Derrick Rose in Minnesota. They all played for Thibodeau with Chicago, too.

Just two seasons into a four-year, $72 million contract with the Los Angeles Lakers, Deng was waived on Sept. 1 in a buyout move that allowed them to spread the final season of that albatross deal over a three-year span of the salary cap limit.

The contract was a remnant of the administration of former Lakers basketball boss Jim Buss and general manager Mitch Kupchak, the duo that was dismissed seven months after handing out hefty deals to Deng and center Timofey Mozgov that didn't pan out.

Deng appeared in 56 games during his first season with the Lakers, but he played in just one game in 2017-18 with Magic Johnson and Rob Pelinka in charge of the front office. He appeared in the opener before dropping out of the rotation and eventually spending long stretches away from the team, an awkward fit for coach Luke Walton's fast-paced system. Deng requested a buyout or a trade, but the Lakers found no takers for the 33-year-old and didn't want to absorb the salary-cap constraint of waiving him during the season.

Deng debuted with the Bulls as a 19-year-old in 2004, when the native of South Sudan was the seventh overall pick in the draft out of Duke. Deng played 10 seasons for Chicago, including 3½ for Thibodeau, but Minnesota will be his fifth team in six years.

The 6-foot-9, 220-pound Deng has a career average of 15.0 points per game on 45.5 percent shooting from field-goal range, to go with 6.1 rebounds per game. He was picked for two All-Star games during his time with the Bulls and has participated in the postseason seven times, once with the Miami Heat.

Bradley wins; Woods gets closer, again

NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa. (AP)—Keegan Bradley had bottomed out, crashing from the high of winning the PGA Championship to tumbling out of the top 100 in the world. His chances to represent U.S. teams in international play had dried up, his preferred putting method was banned, and the confidence that once put him on the cusp of greatness was shot.

"It's scary when I look back, because I didn't know I needed this much improvement," Bradley said.

He was like a scientist in the lab, changing his swing, his putting stroke, his fundamentals—investing in the work needed to get to where he was Monday on soggy Aronimink: going head-to-head in a sudden-death playoff against the new No. 1 player in the world, Justin Rose.

For a player who had to reinvent his game, the clutch moment didn't seem so scary.

Bradley topped Rose with a par on the first playoff hole to win the rain-plagued BMW Championship for his first PGA Tour victory in six years.

Bradley's fourth career win meant a bit more than the others — yes, even the major he won in 2011 — because he held more than a trophy and a $1.62 million check. He also got to give his young son Logan a victory toss in the air on the 18th green for the first time. Bradley, who shot a final round 6-under 64 to finish at 20-under 260, thrust his arms toward the gray sky and drizzle in celebration and waved his family toward him to bring them in for a lengthy embrace.

"I've won before, and I win and I finish, and I go home, just me," Bradley said. "Now, I get to go back and we get to have fun and enjoy it together. It's just a completely different experience."

Rose left Aronimink with a new reality as well. Though he was runner-up at the FedEx Cup playoff event, he didn't come up short in the world ranking. Rose moved No. 1 in the world ahead of Dustin Johnson and became the 22nd player to reach the top spot since the ranking began in 1986.

Rose could have won in regulation, but his 16-foot par putt on the final hole lipped out to force the playoff.

He fell short again in the playoff, missing a 5-foot par putt that would have kept him alive. The 38-year-old Rose had grown to love suburban Philadelphia golf courses with wins at the 2010 AT&T National at Aronimink and the 2013 U.S. Open at Merion.

He didn't get a trophy on this trip. But a No. 1 ranking will do for Rose, who joins Nick Faldo, Lee Westwood and Luke Donald as the only Englishmen to reach the top spot. He is the No. 2 seed behind Bryson DeChambeau among the top 30 who advance to the Tour Championship starting Sept. 20 at East Lake in Atlanta, giving him a clear shot at the $10 million prize.

"I'm delighted to be world No. 1," Rose said. "Boyhood dreams, you know what I mean ?"

Bradley also had a number in mind —30. He started the week at No. 52 and needed to crack the Top 30 to be eligible for East Lake.

"I was watching the leaderboard pretty closely. I don't normally," he said. "It made me feel calm, which is rare. That was good."

Bradley had to wait nearly two days before chasing down Rose. Rain soaked the course on Sunday, canceling play and forcing the Monday finish. It rained only lightly on Monday and players had few complaints about the condition of the course, even if the walking paths became a muddy, soggy mess for the gallery.

As usual, it crowded around Tiger Woods.

Woods caused some more noise—he's been doing that a lot in recent months before the largest galleries at every course—and got within one shot of the lead when he birdied the par-5 ninth to go out in 31.

But he missed the green on 10 and made bogey. He found a bunker on the par-3 14th for another bogey. And this was the kind of day when more than one mistake was going to be costly. Woods wound up with a 65 and finished three shots back.

Rams spoil Gruden's return with victory over Raiders

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Once Jared Goff and the Los Angeles Rams offense got started after sitting out the entire preseason, they couldn't be stopped.

Goff threw two touchdown passes, newcomer Marcus Peters returned an interception 50 yards for a touchdown and the Rams used a dominant second half to spoil coach Jon Gruden's much-anticipated return to the Oakland sideline by beating the Raiders 33-13 on Monday night.

"There was a little bit of feeling it out, seeing what they're going to do, seeing what their scheme is," Goff said. "I thought our defense did a great job of responding as well as our offense. I still don't think we played up to our standards in the first half. Think the second half, we came out and we did."

Goff and the rest of the offensive starters for the Rams (1-0) didn't play at all in the preseason, and many of the top defensive players also got little time on the field in the exhibition games.

That might have contributed to the shaky start. The Raiders (0-1) moved the ball relatively easily and the Rams struggled to finish drives. But Los Angeles flipped the script in the second half, outscoring Oakland 23-0 and showing why this team is considered one of the favorites in the NFC after last year's breakthrough season that ended with a division title.

AP

Los Angeles Rams wide receiver Robert Woods misses the ball as Oakland Raiders defensive back Rashaan Melvin defends during the second half of an NFL football game in Oakland, Calif., Monday, Sept. 10, 2018. Los Angeles won, 33-13.

"I think for us to be able to go through a little bit of adversity and have to come back from behind going into the half, that was a good test of your resolve as a football team," coach Sean McVay said. "It was certainly a good job by those guys and I thought the offense responded."

Gruden had his first game as coach of the Raiders (0-1) since the end of the 2001 season. He was traded to Tampa Bay after that season and beat the Raiders in the Super Bowl the following year. He has been announcing for ESPN for the past nine seasons before Oakland owner Mark Davis finally lured him back to the delight of Raiders fans.

But there were only boos by the end of the night after Peters iced the game with his touchdown return on Derek Carr's third interception of the game.

"It was a tale of two halves," Gruden said. "Obviously we did not take care of the ball and that was a critical part of that football game."

Peters punctuated that with a celebratory dive into the end zone reminiscent of his close friend Marshawn Lynch.

"I did the Beast Mode," Peters said. "That's what I did."

Gruden's second stint started well with the Raiders taking the opening kick and driving 75 yards for a touchdown on a 10-yard run by Lynch. The Rams had Lynch stood up at the 3, but he powered his way into the end zone with help from a push by his offensive linemen.

Oakland managed just six points the rest of the way against a defense fortified by the offseason additions of former All-Pros Peters, Aqib Talib and Ndamukong Suh.

Carr threw an interception in the end zone to John Johnson in the second quarter and another in the fourth when he tried to pull back a pass at the last minute only to have the ball slip out and float right to linebacker Cory Littleton

"It was one of the dumbest plays you could have," Carr said. "I knew what I should have done as soon as that play was over."

The Rams matched the early score when Todd Gurley took a flip from Goff and raced 19 yards to the end zone. They took control in the second half.

Volleyball league resumes; Emon Lodge caging eyes Sunday opening

Today's games in the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League will go ahead as scheduled, while the 2018 Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League aims to open shop this Sunday.

The volleyball league matches yesterday were canceled, as Saipan was still recovering from Typhoon Mangkhut. Today, action will resume at the Saipan Community School and Seventh Day Adventist courts in Susupe and Chalan Kiya, respectively. SCS will host Agape Christian School 2, while SDA will take on Saipan International School. Both matches will start at 3:30pm.

Then tomorrow, the league will be back with its four-game schedule: Agape 1 vs Grace Christian Academy 1; SIS vs Mt. Carmel School; SDA vs SCS; and Agape 2 vs GCA 2.

For the Emon Lodge caging, which was originally set to kick off last Sunday at the Koblerville Gymnasium, coordinator Bong Malasarte said they are planning to start the competition this Sunday. However, they still need to confirm the schedule with the group that is managing the gym.

Ten teams will be playing in the league and the list includes Pacific Islands Club, Kanoa Resort, Kensington Hotel, Armatech, Islanders Rent A Car, Pacific Postal, CellPro, MJD Construction, PEGS, and BSI.

Meanwhile, Saipan Swim Club's practice will resume today, while swim lessons will start tomorrow at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Over at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, three regular season games in the 2018 Saipan Baseball League are left to be played. No schedule of the make-up matches has been released, as the field was closed since last weekend due to Typhoon Mangkhut. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

CUKI

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Before bowing to Ko and settling for the silver medal in the division that had several best masters BJJ practitioners in the region, Cuki recorded a close victory (by one point) in his first match and a submission in the second.

"I actually won my first match by an advantage, which was less than 1 point. My opponent kept attacking my legs and actually caught me in an ankle lock, but I escaped and fought to a better position, which earned me the advantage and the win," he said.

"My second match was another very tough one. All the brown belts have a high skill set and were well prepared for the battle. My opponent kept forcing attackers and sweeps from his guard. It was hard to get out of his guard because he kept tight grips and had good movement in transition, which kept me from passing his guard. I kept working hard and finally secured the pass then was able to maneuver myself into a north south position and lock his arm for the Kimura," Cuki said.

Besides Cuki's silver, Trench Tech also got a bronze from Kier Agda, who competed in the white belt medium/heavy class. Agda saw action in the opening day of the tournament dubbed as "Asian Open" and earned an impressive 7-0 victory in his first match before losing the second one.

Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez, Paulo "The Sang" Sangalang, Giovanni Taitingfong, and Vince "The Clinch" Masga also joined the competition that is recognized as one of the toughests in the region. Shane and Masga won their first match on points before losing via submission, while Sangalang and Taitingfong dropped their opener by points.

"Some very tough players from around the world entered this tournament so it was very competitive," Cuki said.

LEAVE

From Page 28

men's and women's national teams that competed in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 in Mongolia last week.

"We made such a good impression in Mongolia and I hope you will be inspired by our women's and women's national teams' performance in the EAFF tournament. Work hard and show respect and sportsmanship in Tajikistan," said Tan, who was joined in the send-off ceremony by NMIFA Executive Committee officials Norman Del Rosario, Patricia Coleman, and Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan, and NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta.

Coleman also addressed the team and urged them to leave a "real mark" in the tournament.

"Leave a 'real mark' in Tajikistan. You may not be the better team in the AFC tournament, but you can still leave a 'real mark' there by battling the better team until the end," Coleman said.

"Play hard and work as a team. Show them that we can play. Every time you play in Asian Football Confederation tournaments, you're getting us closer to that full-time AFC membership and FIFA. Prove to them that we deserve to be in the group," the former CNMI women's national team member added.

The U16 crew will be coached by Olympian Luem Khen Koo, the same person that helped the CNMI Women's National Team draw Guam and Macau in the EAFF tournament last week. Koo went to Hong Kong after the trip to Mongolia and will meet the U16 players and other officials there. Chi Ming Tang and Angie Ito are the goalkeeper and assistant coaches, while Elizabeth Phan, Yu Hung Lee, and Hazel Mabasa are the team manager, assistant manager, and physiotherapist, respectively.

Tang, Ito, Mabasa, and Phan are scheduled to join the players for the 6am flight to Hong Kong this morning and from the former British colony, they will head to Bangkok, and then Dubai before reaching their final destination—Dushanbe.

"Coach Koo mentioned that this tournament will be a great opportunity for the younger girls to compete against players from different countries. This is a new team. More than half of our team members are new players and this will be their first NMI national team tournament. We also have four players who recently participated with the WNT in the EAFF tournament in Mongolia. We hope that the sessions that we, coaches, and players have put in and the players' heart to play will be enough, if not more than enough, to compete with our opponents," Ito said.

Francisco, King, Joyce, and Costales played in Mongolia and are back for another tour of duty for the CNMI. Costales also shares team captain duties with Itaas and Hall.

"We appreciate very much all the efforts that our coaches and the NMIFA officials put into to make sure that we will be able to compete in this tournament. Thank you also to our parents for your continued support. We will work hard and do our best in Tajikistan to make the CNMI proud," Hall said.

The Commonwealth bets will have their debut in the AFC competition this Saturday as they take on Iran in the 4pm match (9pm Saipan time). Then on Sept. 17, the CNMI squad will be pitted against the host in the 7pm game, while for its third match on Sept. 21, the Koo-coached crew will challenge Thailand at 4pm. The CNMI's game against Singapore is scheduled on the last day of the tournament on Sept. 22 at 4pm.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	98	46	.681	—
New York	90	54	.625	8
Tampa Bay	79	64	.552	18½
Toronto	65	78	.455	32½
Baltimore	41	102	.287	56½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	81	63	.563	—
Minnesota	65	78	.455	15½
Detroit	59	85	.410	22
Chicago	56	88	.389	25
Kansas City	48	95	.336	32½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	90	54	.625	—
Oakland	87	57	.604	3
Seattle	79	64	.552	10½
Los Angeles	71	73	.493	19
Texas	62	82	.431	28

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	80	64	.556	—
Philadelphia	74	68	.521	5
Washington	71	72	.497	8½
New York	65	77	.458	14
Miami	56	86	.394	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	83	60	.580	—
Milwaukee	83	62	.572	1
St. Louis	80	64	.556	3½
Pittsburgh	71	72	.497	12
Cincinnati	62	83	.428	22

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	79	64	.552	—
Los Angeles	78	66	.542	1½
Arizona	76	68	.528	3½
San Francisco	68	77	.469	12
San Diego	57	88	.393	23

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CNMI vs Macau in EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

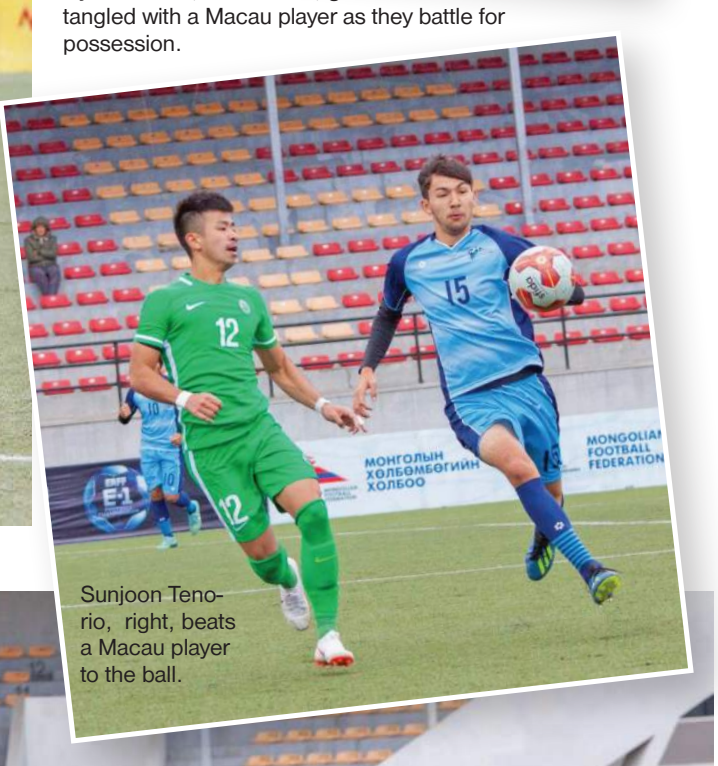
Players of the CNMI Men's National Team huddle before their game against Macau in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 last week at the Mongolian Football Federation Stadium in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

The CNMI's Enrico Del Rosario, third left, kicks the ball out.

CNMI Sports Hall of Famer Jeff Race celebrates after the Blue Ayuyus score, while multi-sport athlete Tania Tan smiles.

John Michael Rojas eludes a Macau defender.

The CNMI's Ryu Tanzawa, second left, gets tangled with a Macau player as they battle for possession.



Sunjoon Tenorio, right, beats a Macau player to the ball.

The CNMI's Jonathan Takano, third left, gestures to his teammates during a lull in the game.

Siblings Joel, left, and Anthony Fruit, center, check on what's happening at the field before making their moves.

Verlander triumphs in return, as Astros top Tigers

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'Leave a real mark'

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI U16 Women's National Team players and officials and Northern Mariana Islands Football Association Executive Committee officers pose for a photo at Kanoa Resort yesterday during a send-off ceremony for the squad that will be competing in the AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI U16 Women's National Team's time to represent the Commonwealth has come, as it leaves Saipan today to compete in the AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

The squad is made up of Mary Joy Aniana, Christina Atalig, Nathanette Blas, Jenny Ann Capayas, Joannah Carreon, Jannah Casarino, Katrina Costales, Abegail Decena, Marinel Falalimpa, Sharmaine Francisco, Erin Frink, Julianne Hall, Sydney Hinds, Khristelle Itaas, Paulynn Joyce, Emiliana King, and Lilian Podziewski. They will be battling Iran, Thailand, Singapore, and the host country in the Group C qualifier with the Top 2 teams after the round-robin play advancing to next year's finals.

A send-off ceremony for the national squad was held yesterday at Kanoa Resort with Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan leading the well-wishers of the group. Tan hoped that the U16 players will take inspirations from the CNMI

See LEAVE on Page 26

Cuki makes finals of BJJ Asian Open

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Trench Tech members pose for a photo before they compete in the 2018 Asian IBJJF Jiu-Jitsu Championship last weekend at the Tokyo Budo-Kan in Tokyo, Japan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Trench Tech founder Cuki Alvarez figured in the finale of the brown belt masters 4 class of the 2018 Asian IBJJF Jiu-Jitsu Championship held over the weekend at the Tokyo Budo-Kan in Tokyo, Japan.

Cuki won his first two matches in the featherweight division for the 45 to 48 age group to make it to the gold medal game where he was pitted against fellow unbeaten competitor Masahiko Kogo of X-Treme Jiu-Jitsu Academy.

"He was very strong and had a super strong grip on my collar and sleeve. We scrambled a few times throughout the entire match (five minutes) when finally he was able to reverse me for the sweep. So, he got the 2 points with like a minute remaining in the clock and just held me there. He actually also got deducted by 2 points, for stalling but time ran out and I wasn't able to reverse back my position. So, I lost," Cuki said.

See CUKI on Page 26